

Belgium expels 7 Libyan diplomats

BRUSSELS (R) — Belgium on Monday became the sixth European Community (EC) state to curtail Libyan diplomatic activity when it announced the expulsion of seven Libyan diplomats. The Belgian Foreign Ministry said the seven were among 14 diplomats resident here and accredited not only to Belgium, but also to The Netherlands, Luxembourg and the Brussels-based EC. Libya does not keep diplomats resident in the other Benelux countries. The ministry said the seven, whose names were handed on Monday to the head of the Libyan mission here, would have to leave Belgium within two weeks. The three Benelux countries only have seven diplomats at their missions in Tripoli. EC foreign ministers decided at a meeting last Monday to allow Libya to keep in EC capitals only the equivalent number of EC diplomats resident in Tripoli. The movements of the remaining Libyans would be restricted to Brussels and its international airport, the ministry said.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Syndicate Foundation
جوردان تايمز مؤسسة صحفية عربية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الرأي"

Kuwait urges Arab integration

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah on Monday called for Arab economic integration, saying it could lead to political unity. "The Arab World has enough economic capabilities to become economically integrated... if there are political issues dividing us, then let us use economic issues to unite us," he told the opening session of a seminar on Arab investment. "There are several cases in history where an economic bloc later became a political one," he added. Some 600 Arab bankers and investment officials are taking part in the seminar, the third such gathering organised by the Arab League. Planning Minister Taher Al Kana'neh heads the Jordanian delegation to the meeting. Topics to be discussed at the three-day meeting are prospects for a common Arab strategy on investment, wider economic cooperation and the need to invest capital in the Arab World.

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King telephones Gulf leaders

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday made telephone calls to King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia and Kuwaiti leader Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, the emir of Qatar Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Hamad Al Thani, the emir of Bahrain Sheikh Issa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to discuss means of intensifying Arab efforts to solve the border issue between Qatar and Bahrain. Also Monday King Hussein received a telephone call from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak during which they reviewed issues of mutual interest.

ETA claims Madrid explosion

BILBAO (AP) — ETA, the Basque separatist organisation, has claimed responsibility for a car bomb that killed five paramilitary Civil Guards, Basque sources said Monday. The sources said a caller identifying himself as an ETA spokesman said Sunday night the military wing of the separatist group was responsible for Friday's attack in Madrid that also injured four Civil Guards. All nine were riding in a Land Rover on a central Madrid street when a remote-controlled car bomb exploded, demolishing the vehicle.

Assad begins Yugoslav visit

BELGRADE (AP) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on Monday arrived here for an official three-day visit and talks with Yugoslav leaders on bilateral relations and international topics. His special jet landed at Belgrade airport in bright sunshine and warm weather. Mr. Assad was welcomed by President Radovan Vukobratovic of Yugoslavia's collective presidency.

Reagan asks for \$1b aid for Egypt

CAIRO (R) — The Reagan administration has asked Congress to maintain U.S. aid to Egypt for 1986/87 at around \$1 billion. Peter McPherson, head of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) said here Monday. "We have in this country about \$1 billion a year in economic assistance," he told reporters after talks with President Hosni Mubarak. "We have asked Congress for the next year for again about a billion dollars."

Egyptian, Uruguayan leaders meet

CAIRO (AP) — Uruguayan President Julio Maria Sanguinetti and President Hosni Mubarak on Monday discussed bilateral relations and international affairs, Egypt's Middle East News Agency said. After the meeting at the presidential Kubbah Palace, Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid said Mr. Sanguinetti expressed his appreciation of Mubarak's efforts to push the peace process in the Middle East, the agency said.

Jordan and Egypt begin higher committee meetings

Lutfi reportedly carrying message for King

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan and Egypt on Monday opened meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee which are expected to culminate in an agreement on promoting tourism for the two countries on an international level.

The higher committee meetings, which are expected to last three days, are co-chaired by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and his Egyptian counterpart Ali Lutfi and attended by cabinet members and senior officials from both sides. Mr. Lutfi arrived here earlier on Monday at the head of his country's team to the meetings. In a statement he gave to reporters upon arrival, the Egyptian premier described Jordanian-Egyptian relations as "satisfactory." But he gave no hint of whether his talks here would cover the stalemated Middle East peace process.

Mr. Lutfi, who is expected to be received by His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday, is carrying a letter to the King from Egyptian

President Hosni Mubarak on the peace process as well as relations between the Kingdom and the Palestine Liberation Organisation, reports from Cairo said. Mr. Lutfi said the main focus of his talks in Amman would be means to promote tourism. Mr. Rifai and Mr. Lutfi are expected to end the higher committee's meetings by signing an agreement on tourism promotion and publicity both on the regional and international levels.

Mr. Lutfi told reporters he was hoping the Amman meetings would arrive at fruitful resolutions aimed at bolstering Egyptian-Jordanian relations in all fields. Commenting on the higher committee's achievements to date, Mr. Lutfi said the two countries have reached an advanced level of cooperation in trade-related affairs and cited as an example the recent setting up of a joint holding company.

During the Amman meetings, both countries will define a framework for cooperation between them, the Royal Jordanian Airline, and Egypt Air, Mr. Lutfi said. He added that details of the envisaged cooperation would be published soon.

Mr. Rifai also praised the level of cooperation between Jordan and Egypt and expressed his satisfaction with the standard of cooperation in all fields. "The higher committee will undoubtedly arrive at numerous decisions to set the stage for further bolstering bilateral ties," Mr. Rifai told reporters at the airport. Also at the airport to receive the Egyptian premier were Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Abdul Wahab Al Majali, Minister of State for Prime Minister Affairs Thoukan Al Hindawi, Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan, Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply Rajal Musasher.

Mr. Rifai said the two countries have reached an advanced level of cooperation in trade-related affairs and cited as an example the recent setting up of a joint holding company. During the Amman meetings, both countries will define a framework for cooperation between them, the Royal Jordanian Airline, and Egypt Air, Mr. Lutfi said. He added that details of the envisaged cooperation would be published soon.

(Continued on page 3)

Qadhafi may not attend summit

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi may not attend the emergency pan-Arab summit conference for which he has called in the wake of the April 15 U.S. attacks on Libya, according to statements attributed on Monday to the Libyan information minister.

"What is important is convening the summit, and not who will attend on behalf of Libya," the minister, Mohammad Sbarafeddin, told the United Arab Emirates newspaper Al Itihad. Mr. Sbarafeddin confirmed that Libya agreed that the summit deal with other Arab issues and not be exclusively devoted to discussing the U.S. attack as Tripoli had initially requested.

"Libya has agreed to attend the urgent Arab summit without insisting on a certain agenda," according to Mr. Sbarafeddin.

In another part of the interview, the minister said "frankly it is necessary to have Qadhafi personally attend the summit."

Morocco's King Hassan II, who has invited the Arab leaders to meet in Fez, will decide on the final date and agenda when he confers with envoys that he had dispatched last week to the Arab

capitals. The Arab foreign ministers are tentatively scheduled to meet in Fez next Wednesday to prepare for the summit.

In Tripoli, Col. Qadhafi met one of the envoys from Morocco, Libyan Television reported. The television gave no details of Col. Qadhafi's meeting on Sunday night with the envoy, Ahmad Ridha Guedira.

In another development, Libya complained to the European Community (EC) on Monday that European countries were providing support and shelter for anti-Libyan "terrorist elements and movements," Libya's official news agency, JANA, reported.

The agency said the complaint was made to the Dutch charge d'affaires in Tripoli, who was summoned to the foreign liaison office (foreign ministry), in his country's capacity as head of the EC.

The European countries in question and the alleged terrorist individuals and movements were not identified by JANA.

The charge d'affaires was told that certain European countries opposed to Libya and other Arab countries were harbouring the

"terrorist elements and movements, providing them with protection, support, financing and facilities for their various activities."

"This position of the European countries is tantamount to sheltering, organising and exporting of terrorism covered by flimsy justification and motives, while the same countries do not hesitate to charge other countries are practising terrorism," JANA said.

"If the European countries allow themselves to behave in this manner, then other countries, too, have the right to take similar measures," the Dutch diplomat was told, JANA said.

Last week, the 12-member EC imposed sanctions against Libya, including the reduction of the number of Libyan diplomats and tighter visa requirements for Libyan nationals, in retaliation for alleged Libyan sponsoring of international guerrilla violence.

EC envoys in Tripoli were summoned to the foreign ministry on Sunday and informed that Libya rejected the sanctions.

Qadhafi is a small part of a big problem, page 4
Iranian ministers head for Libya and Syria, page 2

Abu Nidal claims killing of Briton in Jerusalem

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Palestinian extremist leader Abu Nidal claimed responsibility in a communiqué released in Beirut on Monday for the fatal shooting of a British national in Jerusalem in retaliation for Britain's role in the U.S. air attack on Libya.

The type-written communiqué delivered to the west Beirut office of a Western news agency claimed Paul Appleby, 28, of Bristol, was killed Sunday by Abu Nidal's breakaway Fatah Revolutionary Council.

"The Monzer Kadry squad that operates in the Jerusalem district has carried out the death sentence against Briton Paul Appleby in the heart of Jerusalem while he was on an intelligence mission disguised behind a false pretense," the communiqué said.

Palestinian sources in Beirut told AP Kadry may have been an Abu Nidal activist killed in action, but they had no specific information about him.

It said the shooting was a "retaliation for the complicity of the (Margaret) Thatcher government in the U.S. imperialist aggression on Libya."

The communiqué said all members of the assassination squad "returned safely to base."

The Arabic language communiqué was dated April 28, 1986, and signed by Fatah/Revolutionary Council, the group Abu Nidal formed when he broke away from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in 1974.

Israeli police were investigating possible links Monday between Sunday's killing and attacks on Jerusalem on two other foreigners in the last six weeks.

Jerusalem's Israeli mayor, Teddy Kollek, said security measures were increased in the occupied city.

He did not elaborate, but a larger than usual contingent of combat-armed border police appeared to be stationed near tourist sites in the Old City.

Appleby was shot once in the back of the head with a small calibre pistol near the Garden Tomb, regarded by Protestants as the hill-top where Jesus was crucified and buried.

Police sources told AP, said there was a "high probability" that the assailant was the same man who shot at two other westerners, a West German and an American, in the last six weeks. The two others were slightly wounded.

Police said it was likely he was shot with the same small calibre gun which killed an Israeli businesswoman and wounded the two westerners.

Three Israelis were wounded in stabbing attacks last November, and there have been seven bombings in the city this year.

Appleby was the third Briton killed in the Middle East since U.S. aircraft based in Britain bombed Libya on April 15. Two British hostages were killed in Lebanon after the raid.

Shamir: Syria also should be 'punished'

TEL AVIV (AP) — Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir contended on Monday that Syria as well as Libya should be the target of "retaliatory" raids because both countries support "terrorism," a ministry official said on Monday.

Shamir said the only way to convince Damascus and Tripoli to abandon "terror tactics" was to strike at them militarily "along the lines of the latest U.S. strike at Libya."

"If one wants to take action against terrorism, one must act against the countries that support it," Shamir was quoted as saying during a meeting with Norwegian Deputy Foreign Minister Torbjorn Frymosen. The ministry official said Shamir was referring to Libya and Syria.

U.S. and Israeli leaders have sought to link Syria with international guerrilla violence, including the April 17 attempt to blow up an El Al Israel Airlines plane flying from London to Tel Aviv.

Shamir, who met with Mr. Frymosen on Sunday, also criticised European countries for failing to support the United States' April 15 air strike against Libya.

"Your position does not help," he told Mr. Frymosen, adding that the measures Europe has adopted recently "were not enough."

Mr. Frymosen, who just returned from a visit to Damascus, said Syria was concerned about its image, the Israeli official said.



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai receives his Egyptian counterpart, Mr. Ali Lutfi, who arrived here on Monday to attend meetings of the Joint



Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee which began later in the day (photos by Youssef Al Allan)

Radiation wave sweeps Nordic region; Moscow admits accident at nuclear plant

STOCKHOLM (Agencies) — A wave of radiation swept over Sweden, Finland, Denmark and Norway on Monday and officials said it was probably due to a leak from a Soviet nuclear power plant.

In Moscow the Soviet government reported a nuclear accident at the Chernobyl power plant and said those "affected" were being given aid.

The accident, believed to be the first officially reported in the Soviet Union, was acknowledged in a brief dispatch from the Soviet council of ministers, carried by the official news agency TASS.

The government reported that an investigation commission has been set up and that "measures are being undertaken to eliminate the consequences of the accident."

One atomic reactor was damaged in the accident, TASS said. No other details were immediately reported.

There is a city in the Ukraine named Chernobyl, north of Kiev, but it was not clear from the TASS report whether that is where the damaged plant is located.

Swedish officials said the wind-blown radiation had probably drifted across the sea after a leak at a nuclear power station in one of the Soviet Baltic republics, possibly on Sunday.

"We believe it is coming from something in the Soviet Union — some form of leak from a nuclear power station," Ingemar Vinterstedt of Sweden's defence research establishment said.

The highest levels of radiation were detected in Finland, where

readings in the north and centre were reported to be up to six times normal. In Denmark, officials said radioactivity was five times higher than usual while in the Norwegian capital Oslo it was reported to be 50 per cent higher.

It certainly comes from an Easterly direction which explains why it is higher in Denmark than in Norway," officials at Denmark's Røose nuclear research centre said.

Another official at the Swedish defence research establishment, Lars-Erik de Geer, said the radiation level in Stockholm on Monday was similar to that after a series of atmospheric nuclear tests by China in the mid-1970s.

A spokesman for the Swedish state power board said the public was not at risk and the end-

loactivity could have been caused only by a leak from a nuclear power station.

The radiation was originally believed to have come from a Swedish nuclear power plant north of Stockholm where 600 workers were evacuated earlier on Monday.

In Denmark, officials at the Røose nuclear research centre said radioactivity was between two and five times higher than normal but the cause of the increase was not known.

The leak came to light when a worker at the Forsmark plant, about 100 kilometres north of Stockholm, set off an alarm signal while passing through a routine radiation check on reporting for work on Monday.

10 'killed or caught' in Syrian raid on bomb gang

ABU DHABI (Agencies) — Syrian authorities foiled an attempt to bomb two targets in Damascus last week and killed or arrested 10 members of a gang who bombed several targets the previous week, a United Arab Emirates newspaper said Monday.

Two men were arrested last week while trying to plant bombs at a hospital and student housing complex in the capital, the daily Al Itihad quoted Syrian security sources as saying.

They told security forces where to find members of the gang responsible for a string of bombings the previous week, who were hiding in an apartment rented by an Israeli intelligence agent, it said.

Security forces swooped on the apartment last Friday and overran it after a 90-minute gun-battle with the gang, the sources were quoted as saying. They said 10 people were killed or wounded and arrested.

Syria's official news agency SANA said on April 19 that a number of people had been wounded three days earlier by bombs placed aboard civilian buses. It

blamed Israeli intelligence "and its agents in Lebanon" for the attacks.

Other sources said it was believed nine buses were hit by bomb blasts on highways linking the central Syrian city of Homs to Damascus, Tartous, Aleppo, Palmyra and other centres. A train was also reported hit on the Aleppo-Latakia line, they said.

The "Voice of Lebanon" radio in Beirut said at least 27 people were killed in two bomb explosions in Tartous.

An Israeli defence source in Tel Aviv denied Israeli involvement. Syria last month accused Iraq of being behind a car bombing in Damascus on March 13 which Voice of Lebanon said killed at least 60 people and wounded 110.

A hitherto unknown group describing itself as opposed to the government of President Hafez Al Assad told a Western news agency in Paris last week that it was responsible for the bombing. But Syrian and independent sources discount the claim and existence of such a group.

Soviet 'redefector' says Radio Liberty is a front for CIA

MOSCOW (R) — The head of the Russian-language section of the U.S.-financed station Radio Liberty reappeared in Moscow on Monday and was quoted as saying the station was used as a front for CIA operations.

Oleg Tumanov was quoted by the official news agency TASS as saying that his 20 years in the West had been a nightmare and his decision to return home "natural and logical."

His statement was issued minutes after he was scheduled to begin addressing a Moscow news conference.

Mr. Tumanov, the third-ranking figure at Radio Liberty, jumped off a Soviet ship in the Mediterranean in 1965 and joined the station a year later. He disappeared from his Munich home on Feb. 25 this year.

In his statement, TASS quoted him as saying Radio Liberty, and its sister station Radio Free Europe, were "a convenient front for covert operations against the USSR and other socialist countries."

"(I) can say confidently that the radio service's executive staff has invariably included U.S. intelligence officers," he added, naming three of the station's senior officials.

Mr. Tumanov, 42, said the station "remained a mouthpiece of a warlike group of politicians" and unwaveringly followed U.S. government policy.

"It is a policy of sharply aggravating relations between the two countries, of ignoring any peace initiative coming from the Soviet leadership, (and) of heightening international tension," TASS quoted him as saying.

Mr. Tumanov, acting chief editor at the station, organised Radio Liberty's programmes and checked them before they were broadcast to the Soviet Union.

He said the station was actively involved in recruiting Soviet citizens and that some of its "assets" also included Moscow-based foreign correspondents.

Explaining his flight from the Soviet Union, he said he had been driven by "a youth's illusions, a kind of egoism."

As a deserter from the Soviet armed forces, Mr. Tumanov had been sentenced to death in absentia after leaving the Soviet Union.

The last similar case of Soviet "redefection" was the return of Vitaly Yurchenko from the United States last November. Four months after he disappeared from the Soviet embassy in Rome.

Diplomatic moves intensified to settle Bahrain-Qatar dispute

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — A diplomatic shuttle went on between Gulf neighbours Qatar and Bahrain on Monday to try to resolve their dispute over ownership of an offshore coral reef.

Qatar on Saturday seized 29 men, including two Britons, two Thais and a Dutchman, working at the Fasht Ad Dibal reef on a defence project funded by the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), to which both states belong.

The other 24 workers are believed to be Filipinos. A Bahrain-based tug near the reef was chased off with machinegun fire from Qatari helicopters.

The Dutch embassy in Kuwait on Monday sent an envoy to the Qatari capital Doha, where the workers are held, to try to secure their release.

Oman's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Youssef Ibn Alawi flew to Doha and Bahrain as part of diplomatic moves by GCC allies to settle the affair.

"We are trying to acquaint ourselves with both viewpoints in the hope of restoring the situation to what it used to be," Mr. Ibn Alawi told reporters in Bahrain before flying home.

Saudi Arabia's defence minister, Prince Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz, visited both capitals on Sunday, but diplomatic sources told Reuters he apparently made little progress in reconciling the two sides.

In Kuwait, Foreign Minister

Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah voiced concern at the incident and warned it might affect all GCC states if it were not contained.

"We regret what happened between brothers and we hope this small cloud will disappear... but it would leave a dent in the path of the GCC if it were not contained," he said.

Saudi Arabia has previously mediated a long-simmering territorial dispute between the two countries, most recently in 1982, when Qatar accused Bahrain of provocation by staging naval exercises near the sparsely-populated Hawar Islands, just off its west coast, to which Qatar has laid claim.

Neither government would make any statement on the affair on Monday. Diplomatic sources said Bahrain had sent military reinforcements to the Hawar Islands, but there were no reports of any confrontation.

In the Hague, a Dutch Foreign Ministry spokesman confirmed that the government had despatched one of its Kuwait-based diplomats to Qatar to negotiate the release of the 29 Dutch-employed workers detained in Qatar.

"The diplomat's mission is to establish their identities, to ensure they're well-treated and in good health, as well as to obtain their speedy release," said the spokesman.

The Dutch construction firm Ballast Nedam is in charge of the reef project.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Crown Prince condoles Abu Hassan family

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Monday delegated Mr. Shihab Madi, director of his office, to extend the Crown Prince's condolences to the Abu Hassan family on the death of the late Omer Abu Hassan.

Rifai visits army headquarters

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Monday called at the Armed Forces Headquarters where he met with Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker. Also calling at the army headquarters were a military delegation from the Saudi Command and Staff College who were received by Chief of General Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Taleb.

Prime minister receives envoys

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Monday received Mr. Mohammad Rassoul Al Kilani, Jordan's ambassador to Saudi Arabia, and Mr. Ibrahim Al Bahu, Kuwait's ambassador to Jordan.

Health Ministry announces new posts

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh Monday decided to transfer a number of senior health officials to newly-established posts at the ministry. According to Monday's decision, Dr. Hani Oweis is appointed director of the international health and external relations department, Dr. Mahdi Abu Al Dahab as director of medical education, Dr. Abdul Rahman Al Anani as director of the Bashir Hospital, Dr. Mohammad Rida Tawfiq as director of the malaria and bilharzia section and Dr. Mohammad Halabi as director of school health education, Mr. Nayef Hamameh as director of the supplies and warehouses department. The new decision comes into force as of May 1, 1986.

Forum to discuss plan of action

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Arab Thought Forum's general assembly will hold a meeting on Wednesday to discuss the assembly's plans of action for the current year. It will also review preparations for the second pan-Arab camp due to be held here in the summer.

Algerian team meets local businessmen

AMMAN (Petra) — Representatives of the public and private sectors Monday met with a visiting Algerian economic delegation and discussed subjects of transport, holding exhibitions and the exchange of visits between businessmen from both countries. The two sides also discussed issues relevant to a proposed commercial agreement between Jordan and Algeria.

IBS organises open days

AMMAN (J.T.) — The International Baccalaureate School (IBS) in Amman is organising an open day on Tuesday and Wednesday during which the school's educational, scientific and extracurricular activities will be presented to the public. The two-day programme offers people a chance to see the school's library, educational computers, academic sections and their educational facilities, a show presented by students who are competing for the Crown Prince Hassan award scheme, sports displays and visits to the school's kindergarten. The school's new 394-seat auditorium will be inaugurated on Tuesday evening.

Secretaries celebrate their special day

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordan Intercontinental Hotel hosted a special dinner and party Sunday evening on the occasion of International Secretaries' Day. The party, which included music by the local band "The Tigers" and an illusion show by West German magician Yorgen Heinz, was attended by a large number of secretaries from the private and public sectors. The general director of the hotel, Mr. Jibril Khawam, made a short speech on the occasion in which he praised the role of secretaries. The celebration was also attended by members of the diplomatic corps in Jordan and a number of company directors.

Mafraq to build sports complex

MAFRAQ (Petra) — Mafraq Governorate has acquired 50,000 dunums of land to construct a sports compound, Mafraq Governor Fayez Al Abbadi said Monday. Mr. Abbadi added that JD 25,000 has been allocated towards financing the first phase of the project. Mr. Abbadi also said that JD 80,000 has been allocated for the construction of agricultural roads in the various parts of the governorate.

University obtains JD 2m loan from local banks

AMMAN (J.T.) — A consortium of Jordanian banks will extend a JD 2 million loan to the University of Jordan for the completion of the University of Jordan Hospital buildings and for the purchase of necessary equipment in accordance with an agreement signed at the Arab Bank headquarters in Amman.

The Arab Bank is leading the consortium and providing the major share of the loan which will be guaranteed by the Jordanian government. The loan will finance the construction of the Faculty of Dentistry buildings and outpatient departments for the hospital, according to University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali, who also said that the completion

of these projects is expected before the end of this year.

Altogether 14 banks are taking part in the loan which will be paid back over the coming six and half years in accordance with the agreement which was signed by Dr. Majali for the university, Minister of Finance Hanna Odeh for the Jordanian government and the managers of the banks grouped in the consortium.

Mr. Munther Al Fahoum, who signed for the Arab Bank, said that the consortium was happy to extend the loan to an academic institution which plays a leading role in the country's development. Dr. Majali voiced appreciation to the Jordanian government and the banks for their help.

Jordan, Egypt begin meetings

(Continued from page 1)

Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad, Minister of Information Mohammad Al Khatib, Minister of Transport Rajal Dajani and senior officials.

Mr. Majali, Mr. Hindawi, Mr. Haj Hassan and Dr. Muasher attended the meetings of the joint committee.

On the Egyptian side, the meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Kamal Jazouiri, Minister of Industry Mohammad Abdul Wahab, Minister of Economy and External Trade Mohamed Abu Ali, Egyptian Ambassador to Jordan Hani Wahbeh and a number of consultants and senior officials.

The two premiers met earlier in the day to prepare the agenda for the meetings.

Jordan and Egypt signed agreements on several fields of cooperation during three previous meetings of the higher committee. The agreements covered trade, economy, agriculture and transport, planning, public works, communications, education and tourism.

Mr. Rifai later held a dinner party in honour of Mr. Lutfi and the accompanying delegation. The party was attended by the speaker of the Senate, the court minister, the Armed Forces commander-in-chief, the chief chamberlain, cabinet members and a number of senior civil and military officials.



Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan (centre) Monday addresses a workshop for voluntary and social societies' (Petra photo)

West German parliamentary team due in Amman today

AMMAN (J.T.) — Three members of the West German Lower House of Parliament (Bundestag) are due in Amman on Tuesday evening for six-day fact-finding mission to the Kingdom during which they will meet with senior Jordanian officials.

The three-man team includes members of the Bundestag committee for economic cooperation and development, Mr. Renzik of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), Dr. Feldmann of the Free Democratic Party (FDP) and Dr. Muller-Ermert of the Social Democratic Party (SPD).

According to Mr. Rudiger Lemp, Charge d'Affaires at the West German Embassy in Amman, the West German parliamentarians will meet with Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dakhan and newly appointed Minister of Planning Taher Kana'an as well as some of their Jordanian counterparts in the Lower House of Parliament. The team, Mr. Lemp said, might also meet with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akel Al Fayez.

The West German guests are also expected to tour some of the Kingdom's economic and development projects such as Aqaba port and the Aqaba Thermal Power station, the Jordan Valley and the Royal Scientific Society as well as the touristic and historical sites of Jordan.

After the United States, West Germany is the second-largest non-Arab provider of foreign economic assistance to Jordan.

Haj Hassan opens workshop for social voluntary societies

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan Monday stressed the social importance of voluntary societies and he said that they have significantly contributed to social development in the country.

Addressing a three-day workshop on the role of social voluntary work in development, organised by the Ministry of Labour and Social Development in cooperation with the General Union of Voluntary Societies and the German Kograd Association, Mr. Haj Hassan said the meeting is a serious attempt to organise social

and voluntary work and to pinpoint any weaknesses in this field.

The workshop aims to explore the possibilities and means by which voluntary societies can contribute towards some development projects.

The workshop will discuss working papers on contemporary concepts of social work and the current state of social work on the East and West Banks of Jordan, participation and existing cooperation, in addition to the roles of women and youth in this field and the impact of family ties on social and voluntary work.

Members of iron, steel union discuss production issues

AMMAN (Petra) — Meetings of the Arab Iron and Steel Union (AISU) general assembly began here Monday with the participation of 42 Arab companies from 11 AISU countries. Ministry of Supply Under-Secretary, Abdullah Al Hawamdeh, deputising for Minister of Supply, Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher, delivered a speech at the opening session and said that the availability of Arab funds had helped Arabs but added that a trend towards large economic concerns resulted in many risks which necessitated and promoted joint Arab action to achieve integration.

Mr. Hawamdeh went on to say that the experiences of Arab countries are a solid base for further developing the Arab iron and steel industry. He also pointed out that Arab cooperation will help overcome many problems related to cost-effective production.

Also speaking was AISU chairman of the board Sulaiman Ibn Tawal who said that the Arab iron and steel industry should explore the technology used in industry for developing and diversifying existing production lines. He added that the iron industry has faced many obstacles, mainly attaining production capacities, but some factories have succeeded in overcoming this problem.

The assembly will be discussing topics related to implementing several projects and setting up an Arab bank for industrial information which will be mainly concerned with the iron and steel industry and related industries. Preparations for the third Arab conference on iron and steel, to be held by the end of this year, will also be discussed during these meetings. Members will also discuss the union's working plan in addition to trade exchange.

Contractors end talks on financing projects

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A two-day seminar on funding construction projects in the Arab World wound up its meetings on Sunday with a number of recommendations based on giving priority to local and Arab contractors in bids for construction projects.

Participants recommended that projects funded by the treasury should only be given to national contractors and that the implementation of Arab-funded projects should give to Arab and local contractors.

The seminar, which was organised by the Arab Contractors Union in cooperation with the Jordan Contractors Association, stressed that local and Arab contractors should bid for projects which are funded by foreign resources.

The participants also reviewed a study for setting up a pan-Arab construction firm for development and agreed to hold a forthcoming seminar in Morocco.

The seminar also drafted a number of recommendations pertaining to funding projects and the treatment of contractors. The recommendations included a call on all contractors to calculate the costs of projects before they bid and to keep up-to-date files on the project.

Regarding funding, the seminar recommended that construction-related banks should work towards developing their operations and staff skills to accurately assess funding for projects.

It also called on banks to avoid mortgages as means to guarantee financial support for contractors

and it suggested the establishment of banking consortiums to offer loans, guarantees and other facilities with view to distributing risks and providing further studies for projects. The seminar also reviewed prospects for introducing government-supported contractor financing funds whereby contractors' dues and other commitments could be met through the fund. The seminar recommended that Arab governments create incentives for local and Arab contractors by giving them price priorities and facilitating administrative procedures.

It also called for dividing large projects into several small contracts to give local contractors more opportunities and to reduce competition from foreign contracting firms.

Semi-precious gems bloom on wire trees

By Sama Attiyeh Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Unique, elegant, feminine, and sophisticated were just some of the adjectives used by people viewing Mrs. Latifah Abu Hamdan's handmade oriental jewelled trees which went on display Saturday at the Royal Cultural Centre. Jade, turquoise, opal, mother of pearl, and Indian amethyst are some of semi-precious stones used as the fruit of the trees. Shells, crystals, Brazilian slabs, white onyx and other rocks are used as bases for the trees. The trunks and branches are made of a special wire used in this particular art. On some branches of trees there are tiny shells arranged as perfect little flowers and there are several wind blown trees, made only of the wire.

Mrs. Abu Hamdan first saw hand-made jewelled trees in the United States two years ago and became interested in learning the art. Because she had to return to Jordan, she had a one-month crash course to learn how to make these trees. She also learned where she could obtain the materials and began importing the wire, leaves and stones from Brazil and the U.S., also using some stones she found in Jordan.

Mrs. Abu Hamdan told the Jordan Times that it takes her an average of three days to make a medium-sized tree with the jewels and five days to work on the wind blown trees. She says: "Most of the time is put into gluing; the jewels and leaves."

The exhibition, which was opened by Her Highness Princess Wijdan Ali, displays 85 trees, some of which are private collections. One woman, a stone collector, was impressed by the trees but thinks they are too expensive.

Costs, expenses

Mrs. Abu Hamdan, however, says that she does not think so, considering the amount she pays for the stones and jewels and the taxes she pays for importing the materials. She says: "There are artificial arranged flowers in Jordan that cost so much. Comparatively, I don't think the trees are that expensive. It's just a matter of taste, and what one likes."

Also presented at the opening were several nuns, who themselves work on handicrafts and hold exhibitions of their art work, and they said that they were very impressed and fascinated by what they saw on display. They thought the trees very elegant and delicate

and commented that they go to all the exhibitions in Amman but that they had never seen anything like this before. The nuns said they particularly liked the wind blown trees, the shells used as flowers, and the turquoise trees.

Abstract Artist Ma'amoun Dhubian said: "I like this artwork because it's new and pleasant to the eye, but you cannot collect this with the usual abstract art. This is something you buy to beautify your home or office. I've never seen metal and natural stones used to portray silent and still nature. These trees are not abstract; they have limits. Therefore, this type of art is naive and non-academic. But it's still the nicest exhibition I've seen here."

Relaxing

A male visitor to the exhibition gave his comments and said: "It's so strange that although these trees are sophisticated, seeing them actually makes me feel at ease with myself, and it's relaxing to the eyes. If I am in and angry and frustrated mood, and if I had some of these trees in my home, the first thing I would do is sit and look at them to calm myself down."

The exhibition runs until April 29.

Researchers tackle problems facing Arab development

By Salameh B. Ne'matt Jordan Times Staff Reporter

The Saudi experience

AMMAN — A seminar on independent development in the Arab World Monday heard views by several Arab researchers and scientists on problems facing development in the Arab World and ways to reduce foreign influence on Arab economies.

Minister of Planning Taher Kana'an, who was minister of occupied territories' affairs until Sunday's cabinet reshuffle, presented a paper entitled "Jordan's economic development experience" in which he reviewed changes in the Kingdom's economy following important regional developments.

Dr. Kana'an says in his paper that since Jordan and other neighbouring states are the creation of colonialist countries, namely Britain and France, when they divided the region under the Sykes-Picot agreement, then the element of subservience "are not the result of colonialist influence or control alone but also the result of deliberate and carefully orchestrated divisions of the national economic structure and its components in these states."

"These divisions were carried out on economies and people who, by all considerations, geographically and historically, belong to one nation and one people," Dr. Kana'an said.

According to the minister, the aim of these divisions in the case of greater Syria was not the exploitation of the region, but the protection of the passage to its great empire in India, and to foil attempts at the establishment of a great political power in this volatile region.

In the introduction to his paper, Dr. Kana'an contends that "it is useless to attempt to find in Jordan a model of colonialist exploitation by a control of its raw resources or the monopoly of its markets or multinational companies." He said that monetary studies indicate that Jordan is the party which has benefited financially from its ties with western industrial countries, because financial assistance to the Kingdom, throughout the years, has exceeded, any direct economic benefit for western countries. Western industrial countries however, "benefit from the total of divided systems that guarantees the subservience of the whole Arab region to western hegemony, with all the region's resources, markets and finances," Dr. Kana'an said in his paper.

Using the same logic, he added that "it is in vain trying to rectify Jordan's experience in resisting subservience or striving for independence in accordance with the economic development achievement criteria in itself, because we will find that these achievements were constantly ruled by firm restrictions from which Jordan was not able to shake loose." He said that these res-

trictions binding Jordan were the result of overall divisions that offered Jordan minimal resources from Arab states in accordance with the Khartoum Arab summit resolutions," he said. The economic policy then focused on short-term economic revivals which depended on increased government spending and encouraging the private sector, he said. Dr. Kana'an went on to review problems facing the Jordanian economy and development, but did not offer solutions in his paper.

Outlining the Kingdom's history of economic development, Dr. Kana'an said that the history of Jordan's development does not go beyond 1950 when the country was two years old. He said Jordan as an entity was established "after dividing Palestine, and after the annexation of the West Bank from the East Bank." He said that "this entity suffered from heavy burdens and responsibilities, among which was the burden of fighting the Zionist enemy and handling problems that came about as a result of occupation and division."

Dr. Kana'an said that the first attempts of development planning in Jordan were in the early 1960's when the Jordan Development Council hammered out the first five-year development plan (1962-1967), which was followed in 1963 with a seven-year development plan (1964-1970).

According to studies quoted by Dr. Kana'an, the years following the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, witnessed great economic activity which started with government efforts to reorient and activate the economy which was crippled by the war and the accompanying disturbance.

In a paper presented by Dr. Misbah Al-Ureibi on the "strategy for independent development in a small economy," he reviewed the development process in Libya and the problems facing it.

In a concluding note, Dr. Ureibi said that "under these difficult circumstances, Arab economic integration is 'not only a political aim or a military or strategic necessity, but before all, a way to economic and civilisational development."

Another paper presented by Dr. Khaled Manoubi, discussed the Tunisian experience in independent development. In his paper, Dr. Manoubi outlined the problems facing Tunisian development and economy in the light of internal and external influences that constantly accompanied the development process.

In his paper on "The Saudi Economic Development Experience: independence or subservience," Dr. Mohammad Hisham Khawajik from Qatar said that the Saudi experience in economic development was of a unique character very different from that of most developing countries.

The Saudi economy, he said, despite having a very small population, it is considered as one of the strategically important countries because of its huge oil reserves. The rise in oil prices in 1973, 1979 and 1980 led to an increase in oil revenues which enabled the kingdom to invest the money on a very wide scale on economic and social development, increasing public and private consumption in a way that it led to a vast improvement in the standard of living in Saudi Arabia.

Patterns of change in China

Dr. Nader Farajani, an economist and researcher from Egypt, reviewed in his paper: "From the Red Book to the Blue Book," the Chinese experience in independent development and the similarity between the development process in China before Mao Tse Tung and the situation in the Arab World.

Dr. Farajani believes that there are lessons to be learned from the development experience of China from the perspective of independent development in the Arab World.

Dr. Farajani said: "It is practically possible within the socialist framework to have a socio-economic structural change that could lead to a change in the economic infrastructure, social relations, and the satisfaction of the basic needs in a poor society. A remarkable level of social justice and equality can be reached in a relatively short period of time."

He said that the situation in China in 1949 was worse than in any other country in the Third World. "In less than 25 years, China reached a level of economic growth and self-sufficiency in people's basic needs similar to the average in the Third World, despite the massive size of the population," he continued.

In his paper, Dr. Farajani spoke about the "inevitability of the masses being the social base for any development project." He said that this should be translated into practice through concerned institutions to allow active participation of the masses, to guarantee that the development process does not divert from the aspirations of the masses.

He said that another balance should be reached between public and private interests, between consumption and accumulation and ultimately between the different generations.

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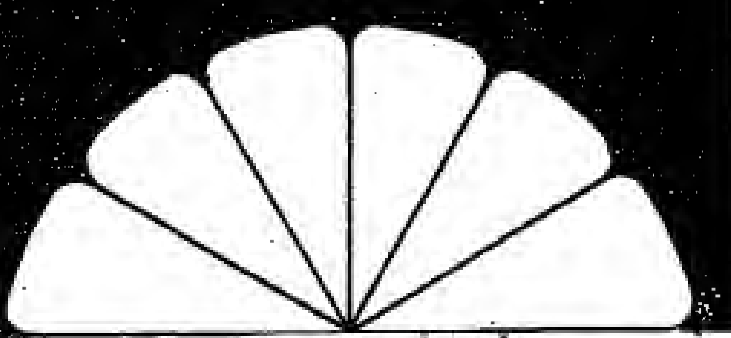
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Jordan Times

The Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents is planning to hold a one-day symposium on May 7th devoted to the condition of roads in Jordan, the causes of accidents, and measures to prevent accidents and minimise casualties on our highways. As usual, this annual gathering is expected to focus its attention mainly on reckless driving, violations of traffic regulations and mechanical failure, blaming these factors for the large number of accidents resulting in property damage and loss of life.

It is appropriate and necessary to discuss these topics and to find means of spreading awareness to minimise danger on roads. But one must also consider other causes which not only contribute to an unacceptable level of tragic road accidents but also lie behind extensive losses to the national economy.

Among these is the state of the roads themselves, which no sooner are built than they are covered with cracks and potholes and show an alarming tendency to cave in under the slightest pressure or exposure to rain in winter or heat in the summer. The roads obviously are not constructed in a manner to endure the effects of even one or two rainy seasons, and the resulting dangerous conditions on many occasions have caused terrible accidents, especially on highways where vehicles run at high speed. As long as contractors are not held accountable for adherence to strict standards and specifications of road-building, we are likely to experience yet more accidents and all the human suffering they entail.

In addition to contributing to the large number of highway accidents, poor road conditions also increase the wear and tear on cars and trucks, causing them to break down or require costly repair and maintenance. This places a strain on the personal pocketbook, raises the cost of doing business in the country, and adds to Jordan's import bill, since all replacement parts must be imported.

Traffic control is also an important consideration for those seeking to improve the safety of Jordan's network of streets and highways. Lanes should be clearly marked with highly-visible and durable paint, signs regulating speed and flow of traffic must be located in prominent positions as well as side streets, and overweight trucks and lorries must be restricted to suitable roads.

The symposium on May 7th will likely hear a host of working papers and discuss several topics in connection with accidents on our roads. The organisers would do well to include these serious matters on their agenda, in the hope that the concerned authorities will act wisely and take these recommendations into serious consideration.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: King pinpoints dangers

HIS Majesty King Hussein in a lecture he made to the World Affairs Council warned against the deteriorating Arab national security and called for remedying such situation and putting an end to all elements that endanger the Arab Nation. He said that the polarisation and the alliance policies have been behind many of the tragedies and the sufferings in our region and have been detrimental to our causes. The King said that Jordan has been resisting such policies and has been confronting alliances because of the danger they pose to our present and future. In contrast, he said, the Zionists have been striving hard to internationalise the Arab-Israeli conflict and seeking to make Israel an extension of the United States and Europe in the Middle East region. In his lecture, the King pointed to the enemies who have been directing their aggression on our nation and said they are the Iranians in the east, the Israelis in the west, and the Ethiopians in the south. The King also said that the on-going civil war in Lebanon and the conflict in the western Sahara continue to pose grave dangers to this nation. He said that the coming summit should address itself to banding all these issues and helping to thwart enemy plans directed against the Arab Nation.

Al Dustour: King warns against polarisation

IN his lecture at the World Affairs Council Sunday, King Hussein underlined the different points of weaknesses and the problems that have been plaguing our Arab Nation. He said that the foreign military alliances and the attempt to create international polarisation in this region by the Zionist enemy have been among the main sources of danger to the Arab countries. He said that the Israelis have been seeking to internationalise the Arab-Israeli conflict and have been seeking also to regard Israel as an extension to the United States and Western Europe. He said that dangers that have been threatening the Arabs were represented in the Gulf war, the Ethiopian aggression on Somalia and the on-going wars in the western Sahara and Lebanon. What the Arabs want now is a joint Arab force and joint action with which to fight the common enemy and thwart Israel's plots on the Arabs. Any coming Arab summit, the King stressed, should rise to the level of responsibility and should handle all these dangers and these problems. There can be no success for the Arabs unless they mobilise their forces and their resources for the common cause.

Sawt Al Shaab: Summit should discuss all dangers

KING Hussein Sunday reiterated Jordan's firm policy with regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Arab causes. He told the World Affairs Council in a lecture that Arab national security was in danger in view of the Iranian aggression on Iraq, Israel's continued occupation of Arab land and the situation in Sudan. The King said that Jordan believes in Arab self strength, rejects the policies of international polarisation and foreign domination and continues to work towards building up Arab self strength and mobilise Arab resources. The coming Arab summit is therefore a chance for the Arabs to study all these issues and these dangers, and think of means for safeguarding national Arab interests. The Arab leaders should try in their meetings to think out ways for fending off all dangers that threaten each Arab state and find means of protecting Arab interests.

Qadhafi is a small part of a big problem

By Patrick Seale

LONDON — Americans are puzzled about why they are the targets of international terrorism. President Reagan expressed this bewilderment when he suggested that America came under attack simply because, like Everest, it was there.

There is an ounce of truth in the president's remark. Many small and weak peoples resent the overwhelming wealth, strength and, as they see it, arrogance of the United States. They don't like their destiny to be dictated to them by big powers. They want the largest America has to offer — the aid, the technology, even the protection in times of need — but they don't want to be humiliated. Above all, when the United States uses its military strength to hit a small country, much of the Third World feels affronted.

Most Americans probably do not know — and hardly care — that their country is now perceived as hostile in much of the Arab and Muslim world. This is a relatively new and dangerous phenomenon.

After the 1973 war, the United States took Middle East peace-making in hand. It excluded the Soviet Union and pushed the Europeans onto the sidelines. The message was "Leave it to Uncle Sam" — specifically, to Henry Kissinger. He prepared the ground during the Carter administration: the Egypt-Israel treaty signed at Camp David and Mr. Carter's promise of a comprehensive settlement that would include Israel's other enemies —

Jordan, Syria and the Palestinians. This broader peace never happened, but through much of the decade from 1973 to 82, the United States was seen by most Arabs as an honest broker, a basically friendly nation committed to a fair settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute. Arab radicals never believed this, pointing to staunch U.S. support for Israel. But the moderate Arab mainstream had faith in America's essential even-handedness.

It is sad to report that this Arab perception of the United States has now changed, and this is at risk in almost every Arab country.

The biggest event to prompt the change was the green light that Alexander Haig, then secretary of state, gave Israel for its invasion of Lebanon and its destruction of the PLO in 1982. About 20,000 Palestinians and Lebanese were killed in that cruel war, which included an 80-day siege and bombardment of Beirut by Israeli forces. To most Arabs the United States, by its silence, by its arming and funding of Israel, had totally committed itself for Israel and against the Arabs, especially the Palestinians.

Evidence of U.S. partiality then piled up. The United States assisted to Israel's retention of a strip of Lebanon. It vetoed United Nations resolutions criticising Israel for repeated punitive strikes against Lebanese villages and Palestinian camps. It seemed powerless to stop the building of settlements in occupied Arab territory, although official U.S. policy is that these settlements are obstacles to peace.

When Israeli long-range bombers attacked the Tunis headquarters of the PLO, president Reagan applauded, although he subsequently backtracked a little bit.

What is remarkable to Europeans is that American opinion, and American leaders, do not see the connection between Arab "terrorism" on the one hand and American support for Israeli policies on the other.

Instead the Reagan administration has singled out Muammar Qadhafi of Libya as the source of international terrorism, separating his acts of violence from the situation on Israel's borders. The truth is that Colonel Qadhafi, for all his bluster, is something of a sideshow. He is a junior partner, and an unreliable one, in a coalition of Arab and Islamic states operating through an array of guerrilla groups opposed to Israel and the United States.

Removing Colonel Qadhafi will not solve the terrorist problem. On the contrary, he would become a martyr in whose name further violent outrages would be committed.

Colonel Qadhafi does indeed have a network of agents who have been responsible for various killings, notably of his Libyan opponents abroad. He is also capable of such vicious acts as the bombing of the Berlin discotheque. But his network is dwarfed by those of the many Pal-



Muammar Qadhafi

estian, Lebanese and Shiite groups who occasionally do his bidding but who have their own reasons for wanting to hit back at Israel and the United States.

There are literally tens of thousands of Palestinians and Lebanese willing to risk their lives in what they see as a liberation struggle. They don't have to be bribed. These anonymous thousands express the dimension of the problem.

If the real cause of Middle East terrorism lies in Israel's policies in Lebanon and the occupied territories, hitting Colonel Qadhafi will solve nothing. Even less effective will be the measures decided on last week by European foreign ministers to reduce Libyan representation in European capitals and control more carefully what few are left.

Two predictions about future Arab behaviour can be made with some confidence. First, there will be no united anti-American response — political, commercial or military. The Arabs will not declare war on the United States or lose their taste for American products. The oil weapon is today a busted flush.

But, secondly, acts of violence of blind angry revenge will increase, putting at risk Americans, American institutions, firms and interests. Unhappily, Americans are physically at risk from Kharrout to Ankara, from lawless Beirut to the capitals of Europe and beyond.

One might suppose that a country like Egypt, at peace with Israel and heavily dependent on U.S. aid, would be a secure place for Americans. But nothing is less certain. Under the surface of Egyptian life, violent, radical and fundamentalist forces are at work, bitterly hostile to Israel and to the United States and sharply critical of President Hosni Mubarak for not speaking out in the Arab cause. This is the case even though Mr. Mubarak has won some credit in the Arab World and inside Egypt for resisting American attempts to involve him in the assault on Colonel Qadhafi.

The concern of many Egyptians about U.S. policies is shared by Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the other Gulf states, where the press has fiercely denounced the bombing of Libyan cities. These rulers look to America to protect them against a possible Iranian victory in the Gulf war. But their public opinion is now so inflamed against America that the rulers cannot afford to be publicly identified with Washington.

There are two major fears in the region. One is that, after new terrorist acts, America will attack Libya again. This time Arab leaders, simply to remain in power, would have to react — perhaps by severing relations with the United States or by boycotting American goods.

A more immediate fear is that Israel, encouraged by the American precedent, may launch an air strike against Syria, its most formidable Arab enemy and a country with a better claim than Libya to sponsoring armed Palestinian, Lebanese and Shiite operations against Israeli targets. The possibility of an Israeli Syrian war hangs like a dark cloud over the eastern Mediterranean.

It is being widely discussed in both countries. Syrians fear that the Libya operation was part of a grander U.S.-Israeli design to get rid not just of Colonel Qadhafi but of Syrian President Hafez al-Assad as well. The fact that the Soviet Union did nothing to protect Colonel Qadhafi from the American air strikes has encouraged those Israeli hawks who argue that Soviet guarantees to Syria are hollow.

The Soviet Union is not ready to fight Israel or the United States for any of its Arab allies — including Syria. And indeed, even though the Soviet Union has supplied Syria with sophisticated air defences, the Soviet training teams have gone home — International Herald Tribune.

Civilian administration — imposing Israel's plan on the occupied territories

A political Handbook of the West Bank.
By Dr. Meron Benvenisti

Prepublication excerpts from a book which will be distributed by Israeli news paper, The Jerusalem Post.

Civilian administration

SET UP in March 1981 by Israeli government decision, its declared purpose was to prepare the ground for the implementation of the "autonomy for residents" plan. According to the official wording, "establishment of the administration is an outgrowth of the autonomy negotiations and meant to facilitate their successful conclusion." Its assignment was "to deal with civilian matters pertaining to the local residents, with due attention to law and order." The establishment of the civilian administration totally separated the military branch of the military government, from the civilian branch, and was presented as a mere administrative change. In effect, however, it had far-reaching political significance. It was an attempt to implement Israel's version of the autonomy plan and create irreversible legal and administrative conditions which would impose the Israeli plan on the Egyptians and Palestinians.

The head of the civilian administration was appointed by the

"Military Commander of Judea and Samaria," a recycled usage which replaced the title "Military Governor of Judea and Samaria."

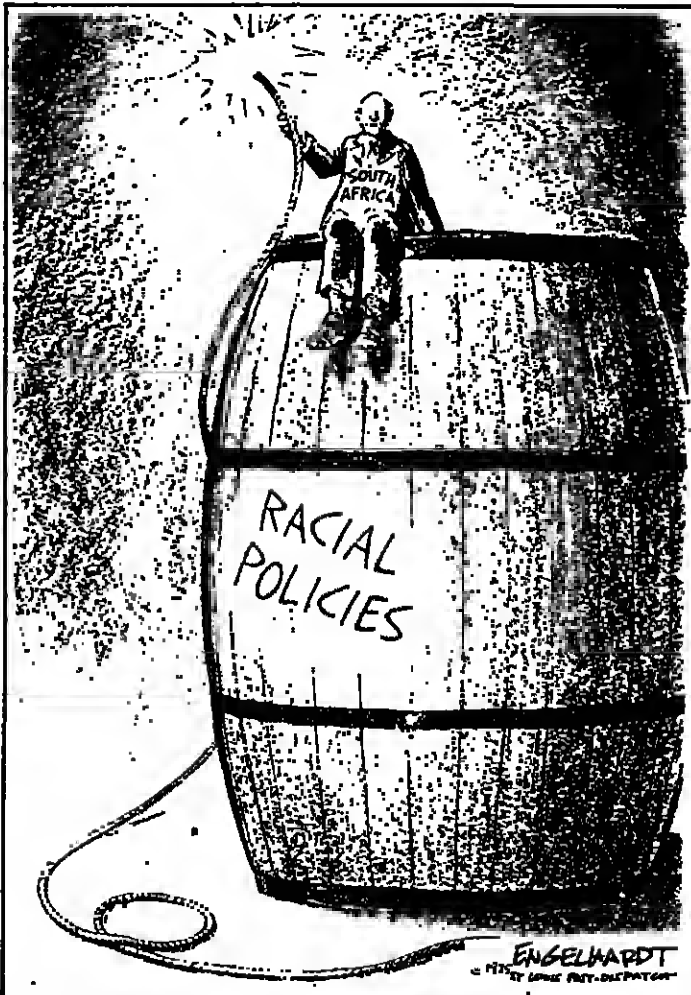
In this way, the administration's promoters wished to establish the civilian administration's subordination to "the source of authority" of the military government. The jurisdiction of the head of the administration included all the civil powers of the military government, according to both Jordanian law and the Israeli "security enactments." However, it was not granted the authority to promulgate primary legislation — to issue military orders — with the exception of secondary legislation. This was the division of powers between the military authority in the territories, which was to remain in place, and the Self-Governing Authority (SGA).

The structure of the administration and the internal organisation were also changed, in line with the structure and roles that Israel wished to grant the SGA. The civilian branch of the military government had been divided into three branches — economics, administration and services, and resources and taxes. With the establishment of the civilian administration, all the functions that, according to the Israeli plan, were to devolve on the SGA, were transferred to the resource and taxes branch, which then became the infrastructure branch. A new branch for welfare was also created. The staff officers were made subordinate to the head of the civilian administration, who was provided with an assistant for Jewish settlement affairs to supervise the Jewish settlements in conjunction with the staff officer for the interior. The settlements, however, and Israeli activity in the West Bank as a whole, are not in any way subordinate to the civilian administration. Although the head of the civilian authority signs various regulations dealing with the regional and local councils, this is purely a formality.

The divisions of the civilian administration are as follows: the head; his assistant and spokesman; staff officers for finance, legal counsel, comptroller, and administration; an economic branch comprising the staff officers for agriculture, transportation, customs, mines, fuel and insurance; an administration and services branch comprising the staff officers for the interior, justice, electricity, water, religious affairs, telecommunications and mail; an infrastructure branch including public works, government and abandoned properties, surveying, auditing, nature reserves, national parks, archaeology, and land registration; and a welfare branch including education, health, welfare and housing. Since its inception, various changes have been made in the civilian administration, including the appointment of a military officer to head the administration and closer coordination between the military and civilian branches.

The failure of the autonomy talks and lack of success in eliminating Palestinian local organisations reflected in the fostering of the village leagues and dismissal of the Palestinian municipalities gave rise to doubts regarding the necessity of maintaining the cumbersome bureaucracy of the civil administration. There is little doubt, however, that its authority will remain as at present, because its significance goes far beyond the exigencies which brought about its establishment. It represents the passage from an ad hoc military government to a permanent system of rule over the local population. After 18 years of military government — by definition a stop-gap pending a political settlement — a permanent system has been established, surprisingly similar to the system by which the Israeli Arab population was governed after the 1948 war.

In 1986, unlike in previous years, the budget of the civilian administration appears as a separate item in the state budget and not as part of the defence budget. This development reflects the degree of permanence attained by the agency, which is viewed as an integral component of Israel's administration system.



Apartheid reforms fail to allay black suspicion

By Victor Mallet

CAPE TOWN — The decision to scrap hated pass laws is seen in South Africa as President P.W. Botha's most significant apartheid reform. But it fails to eliminate widespread black mistrust of government motives.

The elimination of influx control — a crude system of social engineering to keep blacks in tribal "homelands" and out of "white" South Africa — was outlined in a government policy document on Thursday and welcomed by all but right-wing whites.

But black political leaders, pointing to Botha's continued commitment to the 10 homelands and to segregated schools and living areas, were not satisfied. They want political power and at present they are excluded from central government.

Unless he addresses the crucial issue of political power and the popular demand of our people to take part in the decision-making processes in this country, Botha's latest move will still remain an act of political posturing," the United Democratic Front (UDF), a mass anti-apartheid movement, said.

The decision to abolish the pass laws, which set out where blacks could live and work, meant that overnight, tens of thousands of blacks living furtively in black townships such as Soweto without permits became legal residents.

Arrests for pass law offences have ceased, restoring freedom of movement to the country's 24 million black majority, with the exception of about five million living in Transkei, Ciskei, Bophuthatwana and Venda, the homelands declared independent by Pretoria.

They will still be regarded as foreigners by white-ruled South Africa pending negotiations between Pretoria and the homeland governments on joint citizenship.

Thursday was marked by repressive as well as reformist measures. The pass law announcements

coincided with the publication of draft legislation which will effectively give the security forces tough emergency powers whenever they want, to tackle the unrelenting riots in black townships.

"This draconian bill is a clear warning to all persons who may have thought that Botha's scrapping of the pass laws means reform," said the UDF, calling the bill "a licence for naked racist brutality."

The government is caught between angry black opponents on the left and conservative whites fearful of reform on the right.

"What is too little too late for the section of the people may be too much too soon for another section," Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis told a news conference on the pass laws.

In a curious comment for a government known for its loathing of Communism, Heunis went on: "I would like to draw your attention to the statement once made by Lenin, namely that a government's most vulnerable during the time in which it is making significant changes, even if those changes will be beneficial to all of the people in the long run."

South Africans are now waiting to see whether the government keeps its promises.

Although influx control has been abolished, the expected surge of black job-seeking migrants to South Africa's cities may be restricted by lack of housing and land for building, say the government's critics.

"It's the old, sad story of reform," said the newspaper Business Day in an editorial on Thursday. "Government has done enough to arouse right-wing whites, but not enough to solve the problem."

"Yet its policy may still work, provided sufficient land is set aside to permit a process of self-help — provided by the profit motive in a free market — to get off the ground."

As tension mounts in Gaza Strip, Israel wants to wash its hands off

By Nicolas B. Tatro
The Associated Press

BEACH CAMP, Occupied Gaza Strip — Asmi Mohammed Bakr, who fishes the Mediterranean sea like his father and grandfather before him, lives in a six-room, ramshackle house with 70 of his relatives.

"We would like to build an addition," Bakr said with a shrug as he showed a reporter into the building, where patches of sky were visible through gaps in the corrugated tin roof. But there is simply no room, he said.

Overcrowding, poverty and resentment against Israel are prevalent in Gaza, and combine to form potentially explosive social conditions. Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres has cited the tensions as reasons for abandoning the area — as well as other occupied Arab territories.

Israel captured the strip from Egypt in 1967. Since then 2,000 Israeli settlers have moved in, but they represent a relatively small contingent compared to the 50,000 settlers who live in the occupied West Bank.

In recent weeks, Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres has proposed a "Gaza-first" plan to give Palestinians "self-rule" under Egyptian and Israeli supervision as an interim solution.

The idea, he says, is to rid Israel of occupied territories that are not key to Israeli security and where Israel's presence is resented. Egypt has expressed little interest in Peres' plan for Gaza.

Overcrowding in Gaza is the second highest in the world after Hong Kong, Israeli officials say.

The population is 600,000, nearly double that of 1967.

Israelis say the population density averages about 2,000 people per square kilometre and is 28,000 per square kilometre in some refugee camps.

There is also economic hardship in the 360-square-kilometre strip, some of it the result of the Israeli occupation.

The Bakrs, for example, are forced to work the shallow, less plentiful coastal waters because boats are banned beyond 12 kilometres where Israeli gunboats patrol a zone to prevent attacks by Palestinian fighters.

More difficult issues, such as

States join with Russia to determine the minimum acceptable terms and then impose a solution," he said. "I say impose because there are so many extreme elements among Arabs and Jews that it makes a real agreement impossible."

The West Bank, captured in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war is today home for 50,000 Jewish settlers. By contrast, in Gaza only 2,000 settlers live there, and Peres' Labour Party recently dropped the area from a list of occupied land considered "essential to Israel's defence."

"Gaza is not a strategic area. It

Overcrowding, poverty and resentment against Israel are prevalent in Gaza, and combine to form potentially explosive social conditions. Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres has cited the tensions as reasons for abandoning the area — as well as other occupied Arab territories.

determining the future of the West Bank and Jerusalem, would be tackled later, Peres has said.

In an interview with the Associated Press, former Gaza mayor Rashad Al-Shawa said he believed Peres was "sincere" in his desire for peace and did not close the door on Peres' strategy.

"If it will lead us out of Israeli domination to Arab domination, we accept it," said Al-Shawa, twice deposed as Gaza city mayor in 1972 and 1982 for Palestinian nationalist activities.

But he said fragmentation of the Palestinian movement and a deadlock between hawks and doves in Israel made agreement unlikely. "I would suggest the United

does not present a religious problem for Israel. The Israelis never possessed it in their past history except for a short time before they were thrown out by the Philistines," said Al-Shawa, 77.

Egypt controlled the Gaza Strip until Israel captured the area in the 1967 Middle East war. Egypt's border returned to the edge of Gaza in 1982 when Israel completed a withdrawal from the Sinai peninsula in accordance with the 1979 Israel-Egypt peace treaty.

But Cairo has made little effort to reassert its influence.

Palestinians complained to a reporter that Cairo universities have been closed to students from the Gaza. Prior to 1977, about

1,200 students went to Cairo, but only a few go there now, Israelis say.

Restrictions imposed by Egypt, Israel and other Arab countries make it difficult for farmers to market citrus and vegetable crops. Many of the 25,000 people who have been working in the Arab oil states are returning home after the collapse of oil prices, and U.N. officials who administer the camps say the demand for food rations has risen.

Some 42,000 Gazans go to Israel every day to work. But the Israeli central bureau of statistics reported in April that the average wage for Gaza workers declined 13 per cent from 1984 to 1985.

Al-Shawa contends the local economy has been purposefully thwarted to make Gaza dependent on Israel. For example, he said, Gazans are unable to get tax breaks to start new industries. The only visible sign of industry in Gaza city is the "Seven-Up" bottling plant of Palestine, a pre-1967 factory at the entrance to the town.

"The dirty work in Israel is all done by Arabs. The Arab labourers feel it, but they need the money," Al-Shawa said. "They don't express themselves, they don't dare, but they hate the Jews. They hate Israel, and this hatred is increasing."

A senior Israeli military officer who spoke on condition he not be identified by name said Israel had done its best to improve living conditions, but "nobody in the world likes a military government sitting on his head. Everything we do is looked at as something negative."

The Endless Cycle: A story about humanity and anger in a Palestinian refugee camp

By Tareq Hassan

"It is rare that the International Quarterly will run a short story — especially as 'the feature'. This is the exception. Twelve-year-old Tareq Abboud Salem Hassan, a sophomore at Deerfield Academy who is a proud Jordanian, has written a captivating story about the life of a young boy in a Palestinian refugee camp in the Israeli occupied territories." This was the opening remark of the editors of International Quarterly, which is a non-profit magazine published in Deerfield, Massachusetts, in introducing Tareq Hassan's short story which is reprinted below. In their note, the editors go on to say that although the characters in the story are fictitious, Tareq explains that the conditions and atmosphere in the camp as described in his piece are true to life. "I wanted to write a story that shed a new light on both Palestinians and Israelis," Tareq is quoted by the editors as saying.

"But due to the nature of today's media, Palestinians are all too often viewed as just terrorists. The truth is that most of them are normal people mistreated by circumstance. Their children play and misbehave as do all around the world. Their wives gossip. Their fathers act out of pride. Yet, this side of the story is never shown. I've tried to show a little bit of it here. At the same time, I realise that the Israelis are human too, something my father told me never to forget. In all, the situation remains an endless tragedy."

IT was a hot day.

The sun beat mercilessly down on the crowded refugee camp, on the boys who played a vigorous game of soccer, on the mothers who sat gossiping, gossiping much the same way mothers gossip the world around, on hot, lazy days. "Yallah, pass, I'm open," the ball rocketed towards Abdullah, but all too suddenly, for he stood daydreaming and failed to relay it unto Khalid, who was poised, ready to penetrate, in front of the goal.

Khalid exploded. "May mighty God ruin your house, you idiot." Abruptly awakened by the episode, Abdullah ran to recover the ball, along with the pieces of his shattered pride.

The ball rolled towards the other end of the field guided by Mazin, captain of the opposing team. Confident of his sure goal, Mazin was unaware of the approaching threat. Khalid closed in. A few yards from Mazin's triumph, Khalid delivered a beautiful kick to his opponent's shin, temporarily paralyzing him, stealing victory, altering fate.

"Foull! Foull!" Cries of injustice rose from the opposing team. Khalid stily denied everything. Abdullah ran towards the scene and fell by his defeated competitor. Instinctively, Abdullah began to massage Mazin's shin gently, thoughtfully. Helping others had always been a strong trait in his character.

"Why do you help your foe, Abdullah? Are you stupid? He is your enemy. Let him live in pain," Khalid ordered. The teams silenced.

"But... but Mazin is in agony, he is my friend."

"Listen, you either get up now or you get off my team, you understand?"

Sounds of agreement arose from behind. Looking up, Abdullah realised he had no allies within the crowd. He got up, fighting tears and left.

He cursed Khalid and his friends all the way back to his house, where he sat down by the trash bags outside and began to daydream. Abdullah came here to daydream, and always it was about being a doctor, the best doctor in the whole world.

Abdulla was now eleven, and three years had passed since the soccer game.

It was a dreary day and rain pattered against the classroom windows, yet Abdullah was happy and he impatiently waited for the last five minutes of school.

Ever since he started attending the one-room school, he had been at the top of his class, for he had always had an uncontrollable love to learn and to read. Science was his favourite subject and he loved math, with all its logic.

The bell went, Abdullah raced out of the classroom and into the dusty streets, which decayed from years of misuse. He shot around the corner and into the crowded alley which led to his house. Abdullah burst through the curtain door, almost knocking over his flabbergasted mother.

"Allahu Achar! What possesses you such, my son?"

Abdulla didn't answer, rather, he continued onto his room and with a final burst of effort, flew into the wooden skeleton, a poor excuse for a bed.

Abdulla's father got up from the dirt floor and went to see what excited his son such. He was a kind man, and a very generous one at that. All his life, to prosperity or depression, over abundance or famine, he had given to the other fellow. And yet the most likable feature of his character was his relentless optimism, which he had kept about him in the hardest of times. He loved his son, loved him more than anything in the world, and all he ever prayed for was to give his son a better life, which he knew, under such circumstances, was impossible.

Abdulla's father entered the corner which served as the family bedroom and gently approached his son.

"What makes you thus happy, son?" Abdullah sat up and bre-

athlessly explained to his father about the new book his teacher had bought him.

"It's all about doctors, Father!" His father turned away from Abdullah's eager face at the word doctor, his eyebrows drawn down tightly. He began to speak but restrained himself.

"What irritates you, Father?" The man turned back and looked at his son straight in the eyes and began to talk, putting a firm hand on Abdullah's shoulder.

"Son, you dream of being a doctor. I fear to tell you that you can never become one, for it was not meant to be."

His voice rose and began to stutter. "We are Palestinians, we have no universities for you to study in. They won't let you."

Abdulla threw his precious book across the room and tore his father's hand from his shoulder.

"You won't let me be a doctor, you hate me, it's not fair!" Abdullah fled from the room.

tears rolling down his innocent cheeks, and took refuge by the garbage bags. He began to daydream. It was raining, but it didn't bother him, for nothing could ever shatter his dream.

Abdulla's father slowly got up and walked out of the room, a tear swelling in his eye. Upon his exit, he was confronted by the mother who had stood by the wall, listening, heartbroken tears dripping down from her red eyes.

"Why did you have to break his heart, bave you none of your own, man?"

The father nervously replied, "But woman, it is not better to break the dream while still in the bud, rather than to break it when his whole life stands in support of it? For you know as well as I that at the age of sixteen he will have to leave school, we have no universities for him. They took them away. Furthermore, no one to six years of occupation has continued onto further education. Do you not understand, woman?"

"Yes, but cannot Abdullah be the first?"

The man sat down, his face collapsed into his hands. After a few minutes he looked up, cheeks streaked with tears.

"Yes," the old man replied. "Yes. Perhaps Abdullah will be the first."

Already the cycle of heat had begun, the spring sun radiating wave after relentless wave of scorching madness through the camp. Only an inconstant breeze which blew across the river Jordan offered any feeling of relief. Abdullah was now thirteen and already he had taken on some of his father's

predominant features: the kind black eyes, the dark hair, the well-defined, solid face.

The sun began to set towards the west and the breeze which had blown softly before gained momentum. The skies darkened.

Abdulla had spent most of the day at his friend's house, talking about the two girls who sat behind them at school. More importantly, they talked about a recent incident, an incident which had rocked the entire community.

A few days ago, someone had thrown rocks at an approaching Israeli convoy. One of the rocks had found its target, thus injuring a soldier's arm. Since no one in the camp had admitted to this unprovoked surge of undeniable emotion, the entire community was forced under a five-o'clock curfew.

"Who do you think it was?" Mazin asked.

"I don't know. But whoever it was, he sure was pretty stupid for not admitting to the authorities," Abdullah replied.

"Come on Abdullah, you know what they would do to him if they knew who he was," Yousif, one of the more mature adolescent refugees, replied. "Better for the whole community to suffer for a few months, than for one person to go to them for a few days."

"I suppose you're right, Yousif," answered Abdullah as he got up. "I better go home, it's getting pretty late."

"Al Salam Alaikum," Abdullah offered the usual Arab farewell.

"Wa alaikum al salam."

Abdulla pushed aside the curtain which separated Mazin's house from the streets, the filthy streets. They stank of shit, for somewhere, Abdullah knew, a sewage pipe had either broken or backed up. It did not matter, for spring was a pretty time of year.

Abdulla stepped and looked around, past the camp barricades, towards the mountains. They were so pretty, flowers grew and animals ran free.

By the talks of the elders, he-



Tareq Hassan

dazed soldier.

"You... you are a human being, and being a human you are my brother."

Abdulla left the soldier outside the barricade, where another soldier was sure to find him. He took the long way back to his home, so he could view the mountains, inhale their beauty once more. They were as beautiful as ever, nothing could ever damage them, they were a part of Heaven.

"You scum," a bold voice barked from the dark alley behind. Abdullah swung around and saw black, piercing eyes, Khalid's eyes. Khalid who had kicked him off the soccer team years ago, Khalid, that man so intent on avenging his people, saving them from the animals who had taken his people's freedom away.

Khalid barked out again at Abdullah, "You are still the same, stupid person. The stupid person who would help his fallen enemy. Do you not understand that tomorrow, that dog will be back to torment you and your family? You should have let him die in the gutter."

Too stunned to speak, Abdullah suddenly noticed the bloody knife in Khalid's left hand. Painfully he began to deduct the facts. He knew all too well that Khalid had delivered the blow to the soldier he had found wounded in the street.

The head soldier folded the piece of paper and returned it to

hand and then to the mountains. He began to shake. Which path? Which way?

Abdulla looked up at Khalid. Khalid stood tall and strong. "No. No, I cannot kill. I want to help, to relieve, not to destroy."

"Then join the pigs, you traitor. You are not worthy to be amongst us. We shall be remembered. You will be forgotten."

The spring season was giving way to the summer heat and already the sun's rays had become unbearable. The day had grown longer and the laziness of summer had caught up with the camp.

It had been two weeks since Khalid had disappeared, and people began to worry. Khalid's mother, in tears, shouted hysterically at the soldiers now positioned at every corner.

"What have you done to my boy? Why doesn't he come home? Pigs. Filthy pigs."

During one of those confrontations, however, the mother's shrieks suddenly stopped. She heard something. Even the soldiers grew quiet. Uneasy. Clanking metal could be heard over the sandy roads. It was a jeep, bearing the insignia of the Israeli anti-terrorist unit. The vehicle drove through the checkpoint, without stopping, and came to halt in front of the camp. Dust came and apulted forward, the brakes jammed. The camp was silent. Out of the jeep stepped an Israeli soldier, of obvious rank, for the patrols were quick to salute. He marched to the centre of the square and proceeded to pull out a piece of paper, neatly folded, from his shirt pocket. The entire camp faced him. The large man began to read:

"Let this be a lesson to any fool hardy youths who plan to use terror against the Israeli people."

At that two soldiers proceeded to take out a young man, a black sack covering his head, and to throw him down to the centre of the square.

The head soldier folded the piece of paper and returned it to

a doctor. He was going to school, to college, to those mountains.

This had all become possible through Bennet, the Jew whom Abdullah had helped so long ago. The soldier who had been left to die in the dusty streets of the camp.

Bennet was a good man, and he thanked Abdullah for what he had done. Understanding that Abdullah loved medicine, and dreamed of becoming a doctor, Bennet had brought him books. Abdullah had accumulated quite a library until one day, Bennet brought good news: The government had decided to send one Palestinian, from every refugee camp on to further study. The decision of which Palestinian to select would be based on the candidates' academic, social, and personal record. Applications would be submitted by the soldiers, along with letters of recommendation, to a special committee who, in turn, would decide on a student.

The applications came in floods, and every day, Abdullah waited impatiently for the reply.

Days seemed to be years, and minutes hours, until one day Bennet hurried aside the curtain, and entered Abdullah's home.

Abdulla ran out of the bedroom and greeted his friend. Abdullah's mother prepared sweet tea and served Bennet, Abdullah, and Abdullah's father. She then retreated into the bedroom. A cool breeze sailed through the curtain. Bennet began to talk.

"Abdulla, the committee has made a decision. They want you Abdullah, you." The breeze ceased, the room was silent.

Abdulla began to cry and then to sing. His mother rushed out and hugged him. Both wept. Yet the joy could most clearly be seen in Abdullah's father. He was silently weeping. He fell to his knees and thanked Bennet, kissing his hand, begging God to watch over him. It was a glorious day, and that night, the entire town celebrated Abdullah's good fortune. The entire town save Khalid, who sat, motionless in his white-washed room.

It had been three days since Bennet had brought the good news, and today he was due to bring Abdullah's permit to leave. Abdullah was happier than the happiest man on earth, and everyone brought him farewell gifts. The men gave him advice, the women prayed for his well being. Bennet was not due till another half hour, thus Abdullah decided to pay one last visit to the white-washed room, to Khalid.

The room was as dull, and as white as ever. Khalid sat watching the walls to the exact position he was in the day he was returned; a waxen figure unaffected by time. Abdullah entered, and sat by Khalid on the bed. He talked, knowing he would get no answer, somehow it was better this way. As Abdullah talked, a twinkle of silver, from under the pillow, caught his eye. Curiosity overtook him, and he pulled away the pillow. He was flabbergasted. He fell to his knees. For there lay a gun, loaded and ready. Abdullah looked towards Khalid, expecting to find him in that same position, but he was not.

For the first time, Khalid sat up and concentrated his eyes at Abdullah. His mouth did not move. Painfully, Abdullah realised that this was the gun he had been meant to use that night Khalid confronted him. Abdullah took hold of the gun and fell into a deep trance of thought. Perhaps if he had gone, Khalid would have been alright.

Distant cries arose. Abdullah, awakened, cocked his ears.

"Where is Abdullah? Bennet is here with the permit! Summon Abdullah!"

Abdulla forgot himself. He forgot Khalid. He ran out, adrenaline flowing throughout. This was it. He also forgot the gun which he grasped tightly in his right hand, a hand that was supposed to be that of a doctor. The hand of a healer.

It was quick, one shot had pierced the air, silencing Abdullah's cries of joy along with those of the crowd. It was simple. The Israelis had seen a refugee running towards them with a gun, so they shot with usual accuracy, killing Abdullah. Painlessly. Instantly.

After a few minutes of silence, the walls of the crowd arose once more, but this time to grief. Angry men sobbed at the soldiers.

"Why Abdullah? Why him?"

Abdulla lay on the ground, flat on his stomach, not moving, not breathing. A few flies hovered around and settled onto his neck. Sand blew into his face. The once glorious, beautiful sky had now turned into a dull, grey, slab of nothing.

That night Abdullah was buried in the centre of the square, wrapped in a white cloth, true to Muslim tradition.

People wept. People wept. Why? Why now? Why him?

The following day was a hot day.

The sun beat mercilessly down on the crowded refugee camp, on the boys who played a vigorous game of soccer, on the mothers who sat gossiping, gossiping much the same way mothers gossip the world around...

Tourism marks time in Algeria

By Charles Dick

Reuter

TIPASA, Algeria — Tucked to the crook of the bay to a dramatic Mediterranean setting, a hotel complex is partly closed because a shortage of low season tourists.

Just down the coast, a gate sign says a 600-bungalow tourist "village" is closed until early June.

Still further along, and some 35 km west of Algiers, hotels in the major resort of Zeralda report moderate trade before the clamour of high summer.

Despite the example of its two tourist-oriented North African neighbours — Morocco and Tunisia — tourism is marking time in Algeria. It still occupies only a tiny place in the country's oil-dominated economy.

The steep oil price fall, however, has put pressure on President Chadli Benjedid's government to seek other forms of revenue and there are signs that Algeria is trying once again to polish up its tourist image.

The official press, acknowledging the poor performance of the nation's tourist industry, has restated the need to try to give tourism an uplift.

But Western economic analysts say no concrete steps have apparently been taken so far to overcome problems such as the official dinar exchange rate, which they say puts the Algerian currency at about four times its real value.

Other problems include relatively modest investment in the tourist industry, a lack of fast food tourist delights such as hamburgers and soft drinks, and the standard of hotel service.

One diplomat said Algeria also still seemed reluctant to open a "pandora's box" of social change and foreign cultural influences which a heavy commitment to tourism would bring.

The economic analysts said any significant rise to tourism's contribution to Algeria's balance of payments would need rapid major investment.

They said a limited attempt to boost tourism was being made to the south, where tourists can bathe in thermal springs and trips are organised deep into the Sahara desert.

Holidaymakers say the desert is breathtakingly beautiful. But the

camping tours are arduous with a minimum of comfort.

The official APS news agency puts current figures for foreign currency revenue from tourism at around \$60 million from about 400,000 foreign visitors on average a year.

This revenue is dwarfed by Algeria's oil and gas industry earnings which brought in \$12.6 billion in 1985, representing more than 97 per cent of total foreign currency income, according to the economic analysts.

APS says Algerian hotels offer a total of 39,000 beds, compared with 83,000 in Tunisia, where tourism is the second hard currency earner after oil.

The agency says that to relaunch the tourist industry, it must be made a national priority over the next two decades.

It also raises the possibility of introducing a preferential exchange rate, as Egypt, Bulgaria and Syria have done, acknowledging that tourism is penalised by the current official dinar rate of about 4.7 to the dollar.

The Western analysts say Algeria is unlikely, at least in the short term, to go in for package holidays in a big way, preferring to concentrate on the special attractions of Saharan tours to a smaller, more specialised market.

Tours from Djane, in the South-east, offer trips in four-wheel-drive vehicles with overnight stops deep in the desert. In the north, resorts on the extensive Mediterranean coastline are in competition with countries such as Spain and Italy.

Algeria's new emphasis on tourism follows the collapse of oil prices this year.

Chadli emphasised Algeria had taken steps to overcome the crisis after declaring in March that foreign currency revenue from oil, and gas was expected to be cut by 80 per cent in 1986, mainly because of the lower dollar and oil prices.

The government has urged an end to panic buying of goods such as tomato concentrate and olive oil, which it said was based on unfounded fears that Algeria could no longer import basic necessities.

It has also introduced measures, including curbing the foreign currency allowance for Algerians travelling abroad to 1,000 dinars (\$210) every two years per adult, instead of annually.

Astronauts may take up body building in space

USIA

ASTRONAUTS may have to do body-building exercises to space, according to researchers at the University of California.

Prolonged missions in zero gravity, say the scientists, cause astronauts' muscles to atrophy.

"We (humans) have evolved... because of our interaction with gravity," says Kenneth Baldwin, a University of California physiologist. "When we are removed from gravity, every cell in our bodies undergoes a readjustment. We must reverse that process."

The researchers suggest that

astronauts can combat atrophy by performing resistance training exercises designed to stimulate production of a specific form of the muscle protein myosin, a principal component of muscle tissue. In the past, scientists have stressed aerobic exercises for astronauts to build cardiovascular endurance.

Resistance training may also fight bone degeneration, another problem of zero gravity.

The U.S. space agency (NASA) is funding the research in anticipation of prolonged missions aboard a permanent space station, scheduled for the 1990s.

Announcement from the Water Authority of Jordan Contracts ZQ1/13/86 ZQ2/14/86 and ZQ3/15/86 of Zarqa Ruseifa Water and Waste Water Projects

1- Water Authority of Jordan invites experienced contractor from member countries of the Islamic Development Bank and contractors in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan who have been prequalified by the Ministry of Public Works of Jordan as General, First and Second class Water and Sewerage upper divisions and General and First Buildings or Roadside upper divisions to submit their offers for the supply and installation of:

1-1 Contract ZQ1 which consists of the supply and installation of about 30.13 Km. of sewerage lines ranging in diameter from 150 to 300mm, in Wadi Elhajjar area.

1-2 Contract ZQ2 which consists of the supply and installation of about 23.2 km. of sewerage lines ranging in diameter from 150 to 300 mm. in Awajan area.

1-3 Contract ZQ3 which consists of the supply and installation of about 32 km. of sewerage lines ranging in diameter from 150 to 300 mm. in Jabal Alabadi area.

2- A prebid conference will be held on Tuesday 13/5/1986 at 0900 at Water Authority main office in Amman.

3- On or before 31/5/1986 foreign contractors or joint ventures shall submit in hand or by mail all necessary information about the firm or the joint venture. These information will be evaluated and contractors will be informed whether or not to submit bids.

4- Bids are due not later than 1200 noon Jordan local time on Saturday 31/5/1986 at the Water Authority main office in Amman, Jabal Al-Husseini, Nabulus Street. Tender documents are available at the rate of JD 100 each, non-refundable.

Eng. M.S. Kilani
President
Water Authority

England's Bobby Robson names World Cup squad

LONDON (AP) — England manager Bobby Robson on Monday named his 22 players for the World Cup soccer finals in Mexico, choosing the predicted squad with no surprises, based on the success of a nine-match unbeaten run.

As expected, all the players that Robson has groomed in his four years in charge of the national team were included, except for Southampton's young centreback Mark Wright, who broke his leg earlier this month and could not be considered.

The squad, which Robson claims is the best the country has produced since England won the World Cup on home soil in 1966, is a blend of youth and experience. "We have looked at a lot of players, 61 in my four years, and have watched 43 games this season," said Robson. "But the only other player I would have liked to have in my squad is Mark Wright."

"I am keyed up, hopeful and optimistic," added the manager. "But it's only just beginning. We haven't won a game yet."

Six players survive from the 1982 World Cup, when England was eliminated after the second phase. These are veteran goalkeeper Peter Shilton — at 36 the oldest member of the squad — defenders Kenny Sansom and Terry Butcher and midfielders Ray Wilkins, Glenn Hoddle and Bryan Robson, now the team captain.

The rest will be making their

debut in a World Cup final, including prolific striker Gary Lineker, scorer of 34 goals for Everton this season and one of four players in the party from the defending league champion.

Lineker is expected to be partnered up front by Mark Hateley of Milan, recently out of form but supremely dangerous in the air.

If Lineker and Hateley don't come up with the goals — a marked failing in Spain four years ago — the other strikers are Kerry Dixon and Peter Beardsley, while wingers Chris Waddle and John Barnes also can play down the middle.

Beardsley's pace and dribbling against the Soviet Union last month in only his third international got the nod over Luton Town's bludgeoning centre-forward Mick Harford, scorer of 25 goals this season and a highly popular candidate with the soccer press.

Rookie Harford is one of six players put on stand-by by Bobby Robson in case he needs to change the squad before the May 23 deadline imposed by FIFA, the world soccer body.

The least-known member of the party is Aston Villa's 23-year-old

midfielder, Steve Hodge, who has played just twice for his country.

The squad is as follows: GOALKEEPERS: Peter Shilton (Southampton), Chris Woods (Norwich), Gary Bailey (Manchester United).

DEFENDERS: Viv Anderson (Arsenal), Gary Stevens (Everton), Kenny Sansom (Arsenal), Terry Butcher (Ipswich), Alvin Martin (West Ham), Terry Fenwick (Queens Park Rangers), Gary Stevens (Tottenham Hotspur).

MIDFIELDERS: Bryan Robson (Manchester United, captain), Ray Wilkins (Milan), Glenn Hoddle (Tottenham Hotspur), Steve Hodge (Aston Villa), Trevor Steven (Everton), Peter Reid (Everton).

STRIKERS: Gary Lineker (Everton), Mark Hateley (Milan), Peter Beardsley (Newcastle), Kerry Dixon (Chelsea), John Barnes (Watford), Chris Waddle (Tottenham Hotspur).

The following six players were put on World Cup stand-by in case of injury to any of the original squad: GOALKEEPER: Martin Hodge (Sheffield Wednesday).

DEFENDER: Dave Watson (Norwich).

MIDFIELDER: Stewart Robson (Arsenal), Paul Bracewell (Everton).

STRIKERS: Trevor Francis (Sampdoria), Mick Harford (Luton).

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Piggott decides not to ride again

LONDON (R) — Lester Piggott, the former British champion jockey, has abandoned his plan to make a riding comeback in the 1,000 and 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket next Thursday and Saturday. "After consultations over the weekend I have, in order to honour current commitments, abandoned plans to return to the saddle," said Piggott, who had his last ride in Britain in October and is now a trainer. Piggott, 50, surprised the racing world on Saturday by announcing he would ride in the 2,000 Guineas on the Vincent O'Brien-trained colt Tate Gallery. Subsequently it was announced he would also ride in the 1,000 Guineas, the first classic of the English flat season. Piggott would not say Monday whether he had completely abandoned plans to return to race riding.

S.Korean World Cup team heads for U.S.

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea's soccer team left Monday for the United States for warm-up matches and high-altitude training in preparation for the 1986 World Cup in Mexico. Korea is among the 24 finalists and will play its first game against Argentina on June 2. It will be the first time since 1954 for Korea to compete in the finals. The Koreans will stay in San Jose, California, from April 29 to May 4.

Connors victorious in Tulsa

TULSA, Oklahoma (AP) — Jimmy Connors of the United States won his second straight Bank of Oklahoma Tennis Classic on Sunday, beating countryman Kevin Curren 6-3, 6-2.

Connors won \$50,000, while Curren took home \$25,000.

The singles final was delayed 1½ hours when a thunderstorm system moved through the area. Gusty winds affected both players when play began.

Connors advanced to the finals by beating Britain's John Lloyd, 7-5, 3-6, 6-1.

Curren advanced to the finals because he won more sets during the course of the tournament. Curren, Sweden's Anders Jarryd and Vijay Amritraj of India were tied with 2-1 records after the opening rounds.

Connors broke service in the fourth and sixth games of the first set, while Curren did the same in the third game. Connors was down 2-1 in the third game, then came back to break service in the fourth game and also won the fifth, sixth and seventh games to go ahead 5-2. Curren won the eighth game to make the score 5-3. Connors won the ninth and the set 6-3.

In the second set, Curren won the first game. Connors won the second and broke service in the third and fifth games of the set. He won the sixth game, putting the score at 5-1. Curren won the seventh game, but Connors won the eighth game and the set.

Nystrom is quietly rising to top

By Derek Parr
Reuter

MONTE CARLO — Joakim Nystrom, the steady Swede, collected his fourth Grand Prix title of the tennis year in rainy Monte Carlo this weekend, taking another unobtrusive step towards new heights.

Nystrom, consistent and imperturbable in the Swedish tradition passed down by Bjorn Borg, prodded Yannick Noah into increasing error and won Sunday's truncated final 6-3, 6-2.

Earlier wins in Toronto, La Quinta — where his final victim was also Noah — and Rotterdam

lifted the 23-year-old Swede into second place behind Czechoslovak world number one Ivan Lendl in the 1985 Grand Prix standings and seventh in the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) rankings.

But Nystrom, top seed in Madrid this week, is quick to play down his ambitions. "I think it's better not to say you're going to win the French Open or something."

"I know I have to improve my service if I'm going to win the French and also I've never beaten Mats (Wilander) or Lendl who are the two toughest on clay."

Nystrom has fallen to his great

friend and doubles partner Wilander 10 successive times while Lendl beat him this year in Boca West and the Milan final.

With John McEnroe on the sidelines, Nystrom believes his chances of making the top three have increased. "It's more even at the top. Except for Ivan, it's closer now than it was before."

But he is as wary of predictions as he is in his style of play and went on: "I've said I'd like to make the semifinals of a Grand Slam tournament. Of course I'd love to win the French Open but I'd be very happy to make the semis to start with — then we'll see from there."

Beckenbauer selects training team

BONN (R) — Two uncapped defenders and two strikers whose Mexico chances were jeopardised by serious injuries were named by West German manager Franz Beckenbauer Monday in a 26-strong squad for World Cup training.

The uncapped pair, both stoppers, are Wolfgang Funkel, 27, of Bayer, Uerdingen and Norbert Eder, 30, one of four players from newly-crowned league champions Bayern Munich.

Strikers Rudi Voeller of Werder Bremen and Cologne's Pierre Littbarski will both report to the training camp at Malente near Hamburg next Monday despite earlier fears they would not be fit in time.

The squad must be reduced to 22 by May 23, eight days before the finals start.

Voeller returned to the Werder team last week after a five-month absence with a groin injury and Littbarski scored twice in Cologne's 3-0 win over Bochum on Saturday, his first game after a seven-week lay-off with an ankle injury.

Beckenbauer has opted for experience, naming Bayern's 33-year-old centre-forward Dieter Hoeneß, who recently returned to the national side. Both Italian exiles, captain

Karl-Heinz Rummenigge of Internazionale Milan and Hans-Peter Briegel from Verona, are in the squad.

Squad, including age and number of caps: GOALKEEPERS — Eike Immel (Borussia Dortmund) 25/4, Harald Schumacher (Cologne) 32/66, Uli Stein (Hamburg) 31/5.

DEFENDERS — Klaus Augenthaler (Bayern Munich) 28/10, Thomas Berthold (Eintracht Frankfurt) 21/10, Andreas Brehme (Kaiserslautern) 25/21, Hans-Peter Briegel (Verona) 30/64, Guido Buchwald (Stuttgart) 25/6, Norbert Eder (Bayern Munich) 30/0, Karlheinz Foerster (Stuttgart) 27/73, Wolfgang Funkel (Cologne) 29/38, Heinz Gruneld (Hamburg) 29/3, Dieter Hoeneß (Bayern Munich) 33/3, Pierre Littbarski (Cologne) 26/38, Frank Mill (Borussia Mönchengladbach) 27/8, Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (Inter Milan) 30/88, Rudi Voeller (Werder Bremen) 26/29.

FORWARDS — Klaus Allofs (Cologne) 29/38, Heinz Gruneld (Hamburg) 29/3, Dieter Hoeneß (Bayern Munich) 33/3, Pierre Littbarski (Cologne) 26/38, Frank Mill (Borussia Mönchengladbach) 27/8, Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (Inter Milan) 30/88, Rudi Voeller (Werder Bremen) 26/29.

NOTICE

An agreement has been reached between Mr. Samih Tawfik Toukan and Messrs. Sumitomo Corporation for the termination of Mr. Toukan's contract of employment as of 22/4/1986.

Therefore, Mr. Samih Toukan ceased to have any connection with the said corporation as of 22/4/1986.

SECRETARY REQUIRED

The right lady should be: Sincere and hard working. Speaking, writing and typing good English and Arabic. Those who are interested are requested to send Curriculum Vitae to P.O. Box 3471, Amman, Jordan.

REQUIRED

AL-HIKMA PHARMACEUTICALS requires a secretary with good command of English, filing, typing and short hand or speed writing.

Applicants should phone 811692 from 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

FOR RENT

An apartment in Jabal Amman near Zahran Post Office. Consists of three bedrooms, living room, modern kitchen with maid's room and washing room. With central heating and garden. All rooms fixed with deluxe Italian electrical fittings.

Please contact 646211, Mrs. Dajani

DELUXE FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Ground floor. Consists two bedrooms, salon, big kitchen, laundry room, two bathrooms, garden & parking with separate central heating and telephone. Location: Shmeisani area, near Birds Garden.

Annual rent JD 2,800

Please call 601412 daily from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

CARS FOR SALE

Offered for sale by method of sealed bids, eight un-serviceable cars.

The above cars are available for inspection and bidding at the U.S. embassy warehouse, near the 7th Circle, from 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, April 30, 1986 until 4:00 p.m., Thursday, May 1, 1986.

A 20% cash deposit is required

JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES CO. LTD INVITATION TO TENDER NO. (5F/86)

JMPC announces the invitation to tender no. (5F/86) for (electrical power supply system for dragline pits at El-Hassa and El Abiad mines).

The tender documents are available at JMPC offices in Amman, supply department. Application for documents should be accompanied by a non-refundable fee of JD 100 for each set of tender documents.

The closing date for submission of tender is 12.00 hours local time Monday 19th May 1986.

Wasef Azar
Managing Director



The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan

1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Ahlyyah Girls School

Take away is available

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.

6:30 - Midnight

Tel. 638968

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket

Mongolian Barbecue for lunch and dinner FRIDAY

Tel: 818214

Come and taste our specialities

Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.

6:30 - Midnight

Tel: 641083



Authentic Chinese food

Friendly service

Convenient location

Also take-away service

Open daily: Noon - 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - midnight

Location: Near 3rd Circle, opposite to Akliah Hospital

Tel: 641083

CHINA RESTAURANT

ABOVE HOMAM SUPERMARKET

Take away service available

Open daily 11:30 - 3:30

and 6:30 - 11:00

AQABA

Tel: 03-314415

SOUND AND LIGHT AT JERASH

Will start May 1, 1986 evenings at 7:30 as follows:

Arabic language on Friday, Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday.

English language on Saturday, Monday, Wednesday. Tickets on sale at site at JD 1 (children up to 12 yrs. old only 100 fils).

Special J.E.T. buses to Jerash leave daily from Abdali J.E.T. station at 5 p.m. sharp and back to Amman after show.

Now, and at the same time...

OPERA CINEMA Abdali Tel: 675573
RAGHADAN CINEMA Tel: 622198

the greatest American film production featuring the greatest actor of adventure events: Jackie Shaan in the season's movie picture

THE PROTECTOR

A film that relates the story of two policemen in New York who try to combat crime in their own special and impossible way



Dolby Stereo Film
Shows at the Opera Cinema: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30 and 10:30 p.m.
at Raghadan Cinema: 12:00, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00 p.m.,

YOU CAN BE A FREE-LANCE JOURNALIST

Free-lance Journalism can open up an exciting world for you. From your own home you can be doing interesting work. You can have the thrill of seeing your own work in print. And you can earn a useful spare time income. But how do you get started? First you need the right training and the right guidance. That's where Writers Craft comes in. Writers Craft can show you how to write articles that newspapers and magazines will want to print. Here's how a Writers Craft course can work for you:

- You study in your own home — in the peace and quiet you need for creative work.
- You get personal guidance from your own tutor — himself an experienced journalist.
- You are shown how to get your work published in newspapers & magazines throughout the world.

SEND TODAY FOR DETAILS OF THE ARTICLE WRITING AND FREE-LANCE JOURNALISM COURSE
Writers Craft
Dept LMD3, 18-20 High Road
London N22 6BX, England
CACC Accredited

VACANCY FOR A PROGRAMME OFFICER WITH AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION

International organisation based in Amman is seeking a Programme Officer of Jordanian nationality to join its staff. Successful candidate must have the following minimum qualifications:

1. University degree in Business Administration or Management Sciences or a related field.
2. 4-6 years experience in line management with some direct experience in planning and monitoring.
3. Good working knowledge of computer operations.
4. Fluent English and Arabic. Knowledge of French desirable.

The main duties of the post involve:

1. Providing assistance in programme implementation;
2. Analysing programme implementation/achievements/constraints.
3. Maintaining and updating a programme finance monitoring system for the region.
4. Assisting in collecting basic data/information on programmes in the region and storing such data in a computer data base and generating periodic monitoring reports.

The organisation offers very competitive conditions of service including Medical Expense Assistance Plan, pension fund participation, generous annual leave, etc.

Interested candidates who meet the required minimum qualifications should apply in writing by 10 May 1986 indicating clearly their qualifications and previous experience to P.O. Box 811721 (Reference Vacancy Notice PE/86/1/PR) Amman.

Candidates who do not meet the minimum qualifications need not apply.

Cinema CONCORD

Tel: 677420

EUROPEAN VACATION (Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema RAINBOW

Tel: 625155

RED SONJA (Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cine Theatre Philadelphia

Tel: 634144 - 634149

MICKIE & MAUDO (Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 622198

THE PROTECTOR (Colour)

Performances: 12:00, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00

Cinema OPERA

Tel: 675573

THE PROTECTOR (Colour)

Performances: 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.5450/60	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3825/30	Canadian dollars
	2.1700/10	West German marks
	2.4490/4510	Dutch guilders
	1.8150/65	Swiss francs
	44.25/30	Belgian francs
	6.9150/9250	French francs
	1489/1491	Italian lire
	167.52/62	Japanese yen
	7.0125/0225	Swedish crowns
	6.9075/9150	Norwegian crowns
	8.0425/0525	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	344.50/345.00	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities ended the first day of the new account firm, following a number of new bid developments, although dealers noted trading was extremely thin which probably helped to exaggerate the price movements.

At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was 6.0 up at 1,628.6, against its low on Monday of 1,619.7 reached just after the new exchange opening time of 0800 GMT, which is 30 minutes earlier than in the past.

Defence related issues were unaffected by a British newspaper report that the U.K. Defence Ministry is planning to reduce its budget by £1 billion a year over the next three years. Hawker Siddeley ended 4p up at 595 as did Fleetway at 238.

Other leading equities showed a mostly firm bias including P and O up 13p to 556 following press comment on its recent £377 million bid for stock conversion and Courtlands 4p firmer at 269 on a resurgence of speculative demand.

T.I. group surged 24p to 567 on press speculation of a possible bid from BBA group, which ended 4p up at 266. ICI closed unchanged at 921 and Glaxo 5p off at 978, ex-dividend.

Delivery of Spanish trainer aircraft delayed for few months

By Rama Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Delivery of 16 C-101 trainer aircraft which Jordan ordered from Spain last June has been delayed until the first quarter of 1987 after the Kingdom sought some modifications to the aircraft, according to Spanish Ambassador to Jordan Emilio Menendez del Valle.

The arrival in Jordan of the Spanish made aircraft for the Royal Jordanian Air Force (RJAF) was initially scheduled for the end of this year. However, the RJAF asked Casa for some "technical modifications" on the \$90 million package thus prompting a slight delay in the delivery. Mr. Menendez del Valle told the Jordan Times in an interview last week.

Casa sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, declined to elaborate on the type of modifications requested by the RJAF but said that Jordan and Spain were holding further consultations to "incorporate the last-minute requested changes."

This is the second deal the RJAF has concluded with Casa. The first was in 1981 when Jordan bought four Aviocar 212 aircraft. Casa also sells to countries in south and central America. The 16-trainer deal between Jordan and Spain was part of a memorandum on an agreement signed by the Spanish and Jordanian governments on June 1, 1985. The memorandum was later sealed by Spanish Secretary of State for Commerce Luis Del Velasco and commander-in-chief of the RJAF Brigadier General Hsuan Shuridm.

Financing for the \$90 million deal has now been secured after a seven-year finance contract was signed on Dec. 24 last year between the Ministry of Finance (borrower on behalf of RJAF) and the Bank of London and South America (BOLSA), Lloyds Bank International's Spanish operator, and Banco De Santander.

According to the December agreement, \$18 million is to be lent by the Madrid government to Jordan, on concessionary terms with an interest rate of 5.5 percent payable during 20 years with a five-year grace period. \$9 million is Jordan's capital outlay and the balance of \$63 million is in the form of an export credit facility.

The credit line, which has been arranged and fully underwritten by Lloyds bank's Spanish operator BOLSA and Banco de Santander, is backed by Spain's two export credit agencies — CESCE, which provides cover, and ICO, which provides the interest rate subsidy. The seven year finance contract has an interest rate of 11.20 percent, (the end-1985 consensus rate for Jordan), with a drawdown period of up to two years and repayment is in equal six-month instalments, and starts six months after actual delivery.

The finance agreement of December was followed in early February by the signature of an interest-free make-up agreement between both banks and ICO. The February agreement calls for ICO to make up the difference between the fixed-rate interests on the loan 11.20 percent and the cost of bank funding, plus margins. ICO will pay the front-end-fee — about 1/2 per cent on delivery of the aircraft. There is to be no general syndication of the \$63 million credit. However, talks are being held with a select group of Spanish and international banks which have expressed interest.

In what appears to be a separate military-aircraft deal reported from Jakarta, Amman has ordered two CN-235 transport aircraft from PT Nusantara. The two-turbo-prop aircraft, selling for around \$5.7 million, is designed in cooperation with Casa, with the production plants in Bandung, west Java and Madrid. No details are yet available on the financing arrangements.

Greek austerity package shows signs of working

ATHENS (R) — The Socialist government's austerity package was starting to show signs of working, but the economy's structural problems would also need revision, Greece's Central Bank said Monday.

If the government held to its October's austerity measures, it could hope to bring down inflation, it could hope to bring down inflation and make big cuts in the current account deficit, the bank said in its annual report.

However, this alone could not cope with the structural weaknesses of the Greek economy, the report added, calling for measures to encourage investment, reduce state intervention, boost exports and make management more efficient.

"There are indications that we are on the right track ... and the signs are very encouraging," Bank Governor Dimitris Halikias, who presented the report, told a news conference.

He said that falling oil prices and lower international interest rates had helped Greece after the

introduction of the austerity programme, which he called a "shock to the economy."

The austerity package, which included a 15 per cent drachma devaluation and strict wage curbs, aims to cut inflation to 16 per cent this year from 25 per cent last year and halve the current account deficit to \$1.7 billion from \$3.3 billion.

The report said: (the targets) are feasible provided that the stabilisation programme is implemented consistently.

The bank criticised the country's system of linking wage rises with inflation, saying it reduced the incentive to work. It proposed collective bargaining instead.

Tough wage controls adopted this year after a tightening up of the indexation system have been a major reason for a wave of strikes affecting all sectors of the economy.

Officials estimate that austerity measures will bring down the standard of living by seven per cent this year.

Japan props up dollar against yen in latest round of tug-of-war

TOKYO (R) — The Bank of Japan propped up the dollar against the yen Monday in the latest round of the Washington-Tokyo tug-of-war over exchange rates in the run up to Sunday's economic summit.

Dealers said the Bank of Japan continued its single-handed drive to support the dollar after it opened at 167 yen, moving into the market as a buyer to push it up to 167.50.

Since the dollar dropped below the key level of 170 yen, Tokyo has answered Washington's apparent unconcern over the slide in the U.S. currency with increasingly aggressive comment and actions aimed at halting the rising yen.

A cynical market view is that the conflicting public declarations of President Reagan, Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and their finance ministers could be a cute move ahead of a stage-managed reconciliation and statesmanlike agreement at the seven-nation summit.

"The summit is above all a forum to make the leaders look

good," said one senior Western diplomat.

Other operators see Japan alone in its wish for a dollar recovery.

Dealers interpreted last week's remarks by President Reagan and U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker that the dollar fall was reasonable as a licence to sell the greenback.

On Saturday, Mr. Nakasone counter-attacked, describing the yen's rapid rise as outrageous and vowing to seek from his summit partners renewed concerted action to stabilise exchange rates.

The market, faced with how to interpret the political manoeuvres and the economic policy cracks in the relationship between the Japanese and U.S. leaders, decided to play cautious and cover its position during the summit, dealers said.

Tuesday's Tokyo holiday for

the 60th anniversary of Emperor Hirohito's reign took the heat out of trading with dealers unwilling to strike new, large deals.

In mid-week, the dollar could slide back towards last week's record lows below 167 yen, dealers said. But they added that fears over what the May 4-6 summit produces should prompt purchases of dollars by nervous speculators just ahead of the meeting.

"The market is confused. People are taking profits and losses on the moves made by what the politicians say," a dealer at a European bank said.

Mr. Nakasone is under strong domestic pressure to rein in the yen rise from an industry which fears the currency movement is wiping out its famed competitiveness overseas. He may also yet try for a third term as leader during elections in October.

A highly public pact to stabilise exchange rates, similar to the group of five pact which successfully depressed the then overvalued dollar last September, would boost Mr. Nakasone's

image for both accounts.

The market cynics also believe the rapid dollar fall would allow Mr. Reagan to agree to several yen back on the dollar without reviving protectionist sentiment in Congress.

The U.S. Federal Reserve should also welcome a pause in the dollar's fall. Chairman Paul Volcker has warned the dollar slide might turn into a collapse, undermining world confidence in the U.S. currency and sparking domestic inflation.

Mr. Volcker hinted as much by his cryptic remark that whatever it was the banks tried to do, it was not successful.

Alone, the Bank of Japan bought around \$3 billion in a week yet shifted the yen rate only marginally.

Japanese Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita Sunday stirred up more summit speculation, saying he hoped to talk to the U.S., British, West German, French, Canadian and Italian currency authorities ahead of the Tokyo meeting.

Saudis want more Japanese joint ventures

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — The Saudis want more Japanese participation in joint ventures and technology transfer, the Saudi minister of industry and electricity said Sunday at the end of his meeting with the Japanese Minister for Foreign Trade and Industry, Michio Watanabe.

"The most important thing that has been discussed has concerned joint Saudi-Japanese ventures in industry," Mr. Abdul Aziz Al Zamil told reporters after meeting with Mr. Watanabe.

The Japanese minister was in the kingdom to attend the meetings of the fifth Saudi-Japanese Joint Commission for Economic, Industrial and Technological Cooperation, which meets every two years alternating in Riyadh and Tokyo.

"Mr. Watanabe understood fully the objectives of the Saudi Development Plan, to give more emphasis to productive sectors. He also understood fully our invitation to Japan to transform gradually from being just a trading partner to an industrial partner," the Saudi minister said.

He said that Mr. Watanabe promised that he would encourage by various measures the major Japanese trading companies to look very seriously at investment

opportunities in Saudi Arabia and to effect as much as possible the transfer of knowhow to Saudi Arabia.

The issue of transferring Japanese technology and investment to the kingdom dominated the talks held between the Japanese and the Saudi officials.

Mr. Watanabe also met with the Saudi Minister of Planning, Hisham Nazer.

"We did seek various possibilities in areas other than petrochemicals for joint ventures for Japanese companies or direct investments by Japanese interests in this country, which we hope to see in the future," Mr. Nazer told the Saudi and Japanese officials at the closing ceremony of the commission's meetings.

Mr. Watanabe made few promises about joint ventures or increased investments, even though Mr. Al Zamil said he told the Japanese minister that the Saudis do not want capital investment as much as technological participation.

Mr. Watanabe, who was expected to fly to Paris Monday morning for a meeting with Saudi Minister of oil Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, praised the Saudis for being a reliable supplier of crude oil. He said that his country does

not want to see a continued drop in oil prices.

"We in Japan do not consider that a continued drop in oil prices is something we can welcome," he told reporters at the closing ceremony.

He said Japanese imports of Saudi crude fell during the past 10 years not only because of Japan's oil consumption dropping by 30 per cent, but because of pricing.

"We are often asked, why is it that the Saudi share of Japan's oil imports have decreased compared to the previous year. My reply would be that prices would partially be responsible for that, but ever since this year, since the Saudis have switched to netback deals, since January, the amount has risen considerably."

Oil experts in Saudi Arabia said that Japanese purchases of Saudi crude have reached 200,000 barrels per day since netback deals were extended to Japanese firms.

"It is not for the government of Japan to increase or decrease lifting of oil," Mr. Watanabe said.

"However, Japanese companies are aware that Saudi Arabia is an important country. If the prices are good, naturally, we would assume that liftings would be increased from a country that is stable."

Mr. Watanabe, who met Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz for an unscheduled discussion, said relations between the two countries are close. Japan is the kingdom's number one trade partner.

Trade between the two nations reached \$4.44 billion in 1985, according to a statement by Mr. Nazer. "Around the world, Japan's exports are causing various problems. It seems, but in the Japan-Saudi trade, there appears to be a deficit on the part of Japan."

He pointed out that whereas some countries expect Japan to boost imports of products that might not be in great demand in Japan, Saudi crude and petrochemicals are imported because they are necessary.

Mr. Watanabe discussed world terrorism with Crown Prince Abdullah, who concurred, he said, that terrorism is an evil.

The Japanese minister said that his country thinks that one nation can't act alone against terrorists. "That would lead to greater escalation of international tension, and difficulties."

He said that an international front against terrorism would require Arab participation.

China sets up investment fund for Muslim areas

PEKING (R) — The government has set up an investment fund with an Arab bank to provide funds for poor Muslim areas of China, the Peking Review said Monday.

It said the Islamic International Investment Corporation is half-owned by an investment firm in Ningxia, a region in north west China with a predominantly Muslim population.

The new company, due to start

operating later this year, will not charge or pay interest but will share bonuses from profits in line with Islamic Law, the Review said.

The Egyptian-Saudi Arabian Faisal Islamic Bank is the other partner in the firm, which has a registered capital of \$40 million. It will provide capital, information and consultancy services to Muslim areas in China.

Reagan sees no threat from lower oil output

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan was quoted as saying drop in U.S. oil production did not pose a security threat and reiterated his policy of non-interference with market forces.

Oil Daily, an independent publication covering the oil industry, quoted Mr. Reagan as saying the drop in oil prices had caused deep concern about the U.S. oil ind-

ustry. "This is something we are following very closely," Mr. Reagan said Sunday.

Vice-President George Bush has said falling oil prices, which have discouraged U.S. production, threatened U.S. security by leading to greater reliance on imported oil.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 29, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Early morning problems connected with making a good start at the day's practical activities are soon cleared up. The evening is excellent for romance and social life.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Early handle civic affairs that are important, but be careful of making mistakes. If a favor is needed, ask early in the day.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can easily expand where activities are concerned, so get busy on them early. Make new associates who will be helpful.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Get your practical affairs well-organized early in the day, but take no risks later or you could lose security.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Find out early what an associates expects of you, then follow through energetically to get good results.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You can begin the day very wisely at your activities, but later some trouble may crop up that needs careful handling.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You feel happy upon arising and can make appointments for entertainment, but be sure you find out what it will cost.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get home conditions in perfect order early. Later, annoyances may crop up that need quick handling. Be discriminating.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Make fine progress with routines in the morning. Later, you have to solve difficult problems. Handle what is important.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You understand how to get your affairs working more intelligently and can attend to such in the morning.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You have fine ideas for getting what you most want or need. Utilize them patiently for best results.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Consider well your innate wishes and plan just how best to gain them, then go after them courageously.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have a backer who can help you complete a fine project. Do some investigating that will be helpful also.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will be possessed of fine judgment and be very happy early in life. Later, there will be much hard work and trouble-shooting. Slant the education along such lines. The latter years can bring much happiness.

THE Daily Crossword by Bernice Gordon

ACROSS

- 1 Rhyme scheme
- 2 Show
- 3 TV time
- 4 Lively dance
- 5 Yes (Latinism)
- 6 Letter's "salesmen"
- 7 Anatomical
- 8 Implore
- 9 Pome
- 10 Surprised
- 11 Aftermath
- 12 Andy Warhol
- 13 Certain
- 14 Song book
- 15 Jungle beast
- 16 Hawaiian
- 17 New
- 18 Secret org.
- 19 Noble
- 20 Disconcert
- 21 Vile — in Italy
- 22 Rank base
- 23 Nostalgic
- 24 People
- 25 Gentle laugh
- 26 Ho, and and
- 27 Robert
- 28 Certain poet
- 29 Selfishly
- 30 Cautious
- 31 Gobs
- 32 Copy
- 33 "Marty"
- 34 Side hand
- 35 Nymphs
- 36 Playwright
- 37 Cuts off
- 38 Instrument in the symphony
- 39 Unemployed
- 40 Amazon
- 41 Celestial
- 42 Alt
- 43 Malady
- 44 Dear P.
- 45 Conscience
- 46 Tank or tail
- 47 B.A. word

DOWN

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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

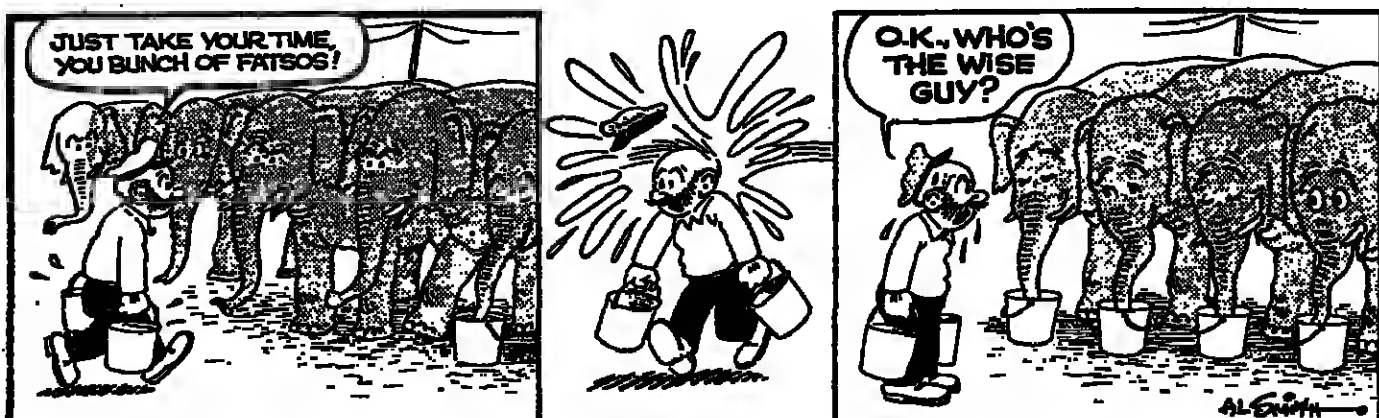
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11. AFTERMATH
12. ANDY WARHOL
13. CERTAIN
14. SONG BOOK
15. JUNGLE BEAST
16. HAWAIIAN
17. NEW
18. SECRET ORG.
19. NOBLE
20. DISCONCERT
21. VILE — IN ITALY
22. RANK BASE
23. NOSTALGIC
24. PEOPLE
25. GENTLE LAUGH
26. HO, AND AND
27. ROBERT
28. CERTAIN POET
29. SELFISHLY
30. CAUTIOUS
31. GOBS
32. COPY
33. "MARTY"
34. SIDE HAND
35. NYMPHS
36. PLAYWRIGHT
37. CUTS OFF
38. INSTRUMENT IN THE SYMPHONY
39. UNEMPLOYED
40. AMAZON
41. CELESTIAL
42. ALT
43. MALADY
44. DEAR P.
45. CONSCIENCE
46. TANK OR TAIL
47. B.A. WORD

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28. CERTAIN POET
29. SELFISHLY
30. CAUTIOUS
31. GOBS
32. COPY
33. "MARTY"
34. SIDE HAND
35. NYMPHS
36. PLAYWRIGHT
37. CUTS OFF
38. INSTRUMENT IN THE SYMPHONY
39. UNEMPLOYED
40. AMAZON
41. CELESTIAL
42. ALT
43. MALADY
44. DEAR P.
45. CONSCIENCE
46. TANK OR TAIL
47. B.A. WORD

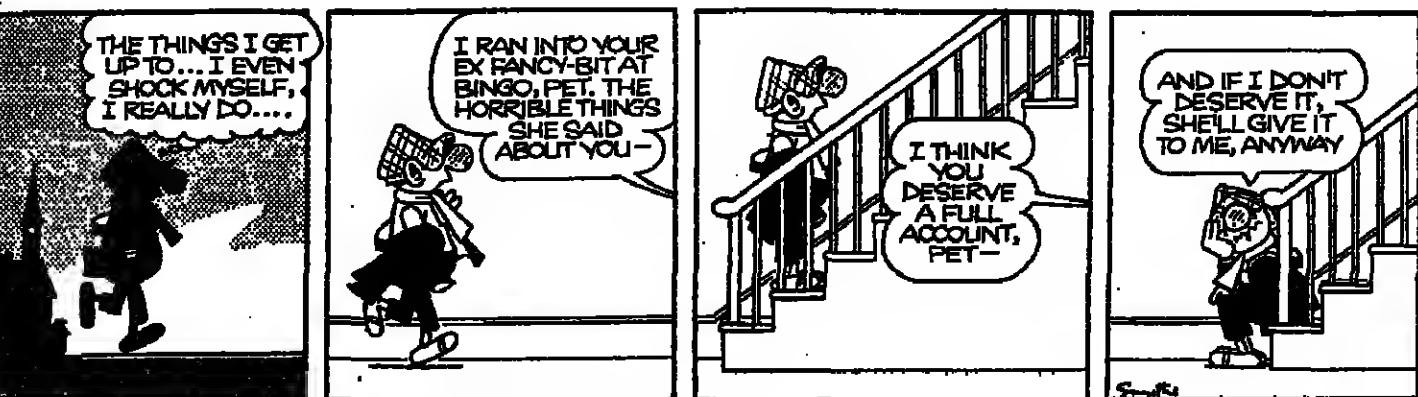
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

FODOL
COTTE
REGEHE
PLUCUF

Gen-u-wine 24 karat

WHAT YOU MIGHT GET WHEN THE WOOL IS PULLED OVER YOUR EYES.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: "O O O O O O O O"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: ERASE CHIDE HANGER TIDBIT
Answer: What there was in that crowded city — A DEARTH OF EARTH

Reagan says Washington is committed to Asian security

HONOLULU (R) — President Ronald Reagan has told a group of Asian reporters that the United States remains committed to its Asian allies in the face of what he described as a continued Soviet military buildup in the region.

"U.S. forces remain committed to promoting regional security by deterring Soviet expansionism," Mr. Reagan said Sunday, prior to his departure on Monday for a three-day stay in Bali, Indonesia.

"Our relations with the ASEAN (Association of South East Asian Nations) are based on our common dedication to the basic principles of freedom and independence and our shared recognition of the importance of free markets."

Mr. Reagan also said the United States had agreed to take part in a World Bank-sponsored meeting to help coordinate aid efforts for the Philippines.

"Resolving the severe economic problems of the Philippines will require a sustained effort," Mr. Reagan said.

Monday's 14-hour flight to Bali was the third leg of his 13-day Asian trip, the longest of his presidency. For three days beginning May 4, he will attend the Tokyo economic summit of leading industrial democracies, where increasing guerrilla attacks are expected to be high on the agenda.

In Nusa Dua, Bali, South-East Asian foreign ministers assembled

amid tight security ahead of Mr. Reagan's arrival.

Mr. Reagan is due in Bali on Tuesday and is expected by Asian officials to press for backing in his drive against Libya and international guerrilla violence.

Philippine Vice-President and Foreign Minister Salvador Laurel, speaking to reporters at Bali airport, said he would discuss with Mr. Reagan in a special private meeting "the real situation in the Philippines and the economic problems we are facing."

Linking the Reagan visit to a row between Australia and Indonesia over a Sydney newspaper article regarded as insulting to President Suharto, Indonesian officials said they would not admit two White House correspondents working for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC).

Malaysian Foreign Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen said efforts to resolve the Kampuchean problem would be one of the main topics for discussion, along with the economic issues that will dominate the Tokyo summit.

The foreign ministers of ASEAN, which groups Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines and Brunei, will meet on Tuesday to prepare for their talks with Mr. Reagan.

Mr. Reagan and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will stay at a luxury beach resort on the southern tip of Bali built in the style of a Balinese temple.

Heavy security has been ordered for the usually tranquil holiday island in the wake of the U.S. bombing raids on Libya and the threat of Libyan retaliation, with troops and armoured cars guarding the Reagan complex.

The ASEAN leaders will press Mr. Reagan for a more active U.S. role in achieving a Kampuchean settlement and express concern about falling oil and commodity prices, Asian officials said.

They told Reuters ASEAN would like Washington to use its influence with Peking, Moscow and the groups involved in the Kampuchean conflict to pave the way for a negotiated settlement.

A signal from Mr. Reagan on Washington's willingness to join the Soviet Union and China to underwrite the security of Thailand, Kampuchea and Vietnam might help break the impasse over a Kampuchean solution, the officials added.

La. 'a attack defended

In his interview with Asian reporters, Mr. Reagan also said the U.S. air strike against Libya was necessary and proportionate.

"It was designed to disrupt Libya's ability to carry out terrorist attacks and to deter future terrorist acts by Libya."

"It was both a necessary and proportionate response to an on-

going pattern of attacks by the government of Libya," he said.

"We have explained the reasons for our actions to the ASEAN governments," he said.

"While there have been critical popular reactions... we believe the governments understand the legal and moral basis of our actions," he said.

Reagan contacts Marcos

On Sunday, Mr. Reagan telephoned ousted Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos, who is living in Hawaii.

The call was described by a Marcos spokesman as "frank, friendly, cordial and lengthy." At the end of the call, Mr. Reagan's wife Nancy spoke to Mr. Marcos' wife Imelda.

The White House gave out no details of the call and had no comment on reports that the call lasted at least an hour and that at one point Mrs. Marcos broke into tears.

It was the first time Mr. Reagan had spoken to Mr. Marcos, whom he regards as an old friend and ally, since the Philippine leader was ousted by a popular revolt earlier this year. Mr. Marcos has been granted safe haven in the United States until he finds a permanent home.

Before leaving Washington on Friday, Mr. Reagan called new Philippine President Corason Aquino and invited her to come to the United States. She is expected to visit in the fall.

Wellington 'will not revoke' nuclear ship ban

WELLINGTON (R) — New Zealand is prepared to change some elements of its proposed anti-nuclear legislation but will not revoke its ban on nuclear-armed or powered warships, Prime Minister David Lange said Monday.

His comments followed suggestions by a senior United States official that settlement of the row between the two countries on the nuclear ban did not necessarily involve either of them backing down.

Mr. Lange told reporters: "We are inflexible on the subject of having nuclear weapons in New Zealand (but) we are careful that our legislation should not be seen to be provocative."

The U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Asian and Pacific Affairs, James Lilley, said in a radio interview Monday that New Zealand would have to change its draft legislation before the two long-time allies solved their argument.

The year-long dispute centres on Wellington's refusal to allow port calls by warships carrying nuclear weapons and Washington's insistence that the stand compromises its doctrine of neither confirming nor denying the presence of nuclear warheads.

Diplomatic analysts told Reuters they saw signs of an imminent breakthrough in the dispute but Mr. Lilley said a solution did not depend on either Wellington or Washington backing down.

"We certainly hope that a full solution would be in place by August or not much later and this requires a good deal of work by all of us," he added.

Mr. Lange, who has several times said elements of the draft law could be changed, said there would be no trade-off of policy.

New Zealand was sincere when it said it would not require the U.S. or Britain to disclose the state of warship armaments in applying its non-nuclear policy.

"If that were made easier to accept by adjustments (to the legislation) then I'm all for it," Mr. Lange declared.

The U.S. has said New Zealand will lose its ally status if it makes its nuclear ban law, and will forfeit any protection accorded by the Australia, New Zealand, United States defence pact.

Seoul students burn themselves in protest

SEOUL (R) — Two students set themselves alight Monday and police made about 300 arrests in quelling an anti-government demonstration outside a Seoul university.

Hours later, a senior official in President Chun Doo Hwan's ruling party said South Korea's radical student protests could get out of control.

Monday's incidents followed clashes Sunday in the central city of Chongju where more than 1,000 students attacked ranks of riot police after an opposition political rally. They were dispersed by tear gas.

A 400-strong group of protesters gathered outside Seoul's National University campus and two male students climbed onto a roof, doused themselves with petrol and set themselves alight.

Hospital officials said the two were critically ill with severe

burns. Police sources said one of them also suffered injuries in leaping from the roof to escape arrest and was unlikely to live.

The authorities said 42 people were arrested in Chongju and 123 others were detained at the National University Sunday where students had been planned to seize a library to demonstrate against Mr. Chun and U.S. support for him.

Metropolitan Police Chief Lee Yong-Chang told reporters police arrested the students as they tried to assemble near the university library to occupy it. He said police seized petrol bombs, hammers, wooden staves and seditious leaflets.

He said the students planned to mobilise about 1,000 others at the state-run university to protest against their scheduled military training.

Aquino call for truce restrains army offensive

MANILA (R) — Philippine security forces have been forced on to the defensive since President Corason Aquino's call for a truce in the 17-year-old war with Communist guerrillas, a military spokesman said Monday.

"We are prevented from launching a major offensive because of the government's policy of reconciliation and the rebels are really taking advantage of the situation," Col. Emilio de Leon told Reuters.

Col. De Leon confirmed complaints of commanders in the field against the government's move to win over members of the New People's Army (NPA) which has been fighting the government since 1969.

Mrs. Aquino, swept into power by a civilian-backed military revolt in February after a disputed election, called for the truce to fulfill a campaign promise. But at least 750 people have been killed in rebel-related incidents since then.

"Our hands are tied by a populist image of the president who promised to negotiate a ceasefire with the Communists," said a senior army field commander in Cagayan province in the northern Philippines.

At least 40 guerrillas and 26 soldiers have been killed in gun battles since April 18 in Cagayan, about 400 kilometres north of Manila.

Among those killed in an ambush last Thursday was an army colonel, Filipino journalist Pete Mabazon and Reuter photographer Willie Vicoy.

Two captains and army brigade commander Col. Thelmo Cunan were seriously wounded.

"The ambush was a major score for the NPA," the officer said. He asked not to be identified because he was not authorised to talk to journalists.

"We do not know yet whether we will be allowed to mount an offensive because of on-going negotiations for a ceasefire," he said.

A young captain said: "We are at a disadvantage. The guerrillas can disappear among the villagers while we have become sitting duck targets."

Other military sources said it would be difficult to achieve a ceasefire with the rebels because the NPA had several fronts which operated independently.

Meanwhile in Nusa Dua, Bali, Philippine Vice-President Salvador Laurel Monday dismissed as wishful thinking a plan by deposed President Ferdinand Marcos to return from exile.

"I think it's wishful thinking... he has no passport, how can he travel?" Mr. Laurel said when asked about a statement from Marcos broadcast on a Manila radio station saying he would return one day.

Japan mobilises police for imperial celebrations

TOKYO (R) — Japanese police Monday mobilised a massive force to protect Emperor Hirohito from leftwing radicals when he appears in public Tuesday at a ceremony marking 60 years on the throne.

The Emperor, also 85 Tuesday, is a prime target for leftists who accuse him of leading Japan to war in the 1930s and 1940s and who last month came near to landing a rocket on him while he slept in his palace.

Police, stung by the challenge to their security net by rocket attacks on the palace and the U.S. embassy, have flocked a record 30,000 men to protect the emperor and the seven-nation summit meeting beginning on Sunday.

"We will prevent radicals by all means from coming near the National Sumo Stadium," a police spokesman said.

At the stadium, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone will welcome the frail and diminutive emperor, the world's longest reigning monarch.

A total of 6,000 Japanese picked from all walks of life and foreign diplomats also will be there.

Over the past month, police have shielded manholes and manned the roofs of buildings overlooking the stadium. Traffic around the site will be banned from two hours before the ceremony starts at 2.30 p.m. (0.530 GMT).

Hirohito will as usual appear four times in the morning at the balcony of his palace to greet birthday well-wishers from behind a bullet-proof glass wall.

Citizens are also allowed to enter the palace grounds on Jan. 2 for the imperial New Year greeting.

The celebrations for Hirohito's 60 years on the throne were set to

coincide with his birthday, although his accession date is really Dec. 25.

Police said they expect several rallies and demonstrations by leftwingers Tuesday.

The emperor escaped the hangman after Japan's defeat in World War II when Gen. Douglas MacArthur blocked attempts at allied revenge on grounds that his death would inflame, not subdue, Japanese sentiment.

The victors did hang seven Japanese leaders, including wartime head Gen. Hideki Tojo.

Hirohito was regarded until the end of the war as a living God with divine prerogative and supreme command of the army.

But most historians agree his ability to overrule his militaristic generals was limited.

The emperor was turned into a powerless symbol of national identity in the post-war constitution, written under the auspices of the U.S. occupation.

British oil output steady in March

LONDON (AP) — Production from the British sector of the North Sea oil field remained steady in March despite falling oil prices, the Royal Bank of Scotland reported Monday. Output during February and March averaged 2.72 million barrels a day, the bank said in its monthly oil report.

Output in March was 2.1 per cent higher than in March 1985. The value of the oil, in British pounds, was said to be less than half its November levels as the dollar oil price has declined and the pound has strengthened against the dollar at the same time.

Haitian leader blames 'agitators' for deaths

PORT-AU-PRINCE (R) — The head of Haiti's ruling National Council has blamed "a small group of agitators" for provoking troops who killed at least seven people when they opened fire on demonstrators on Saturday.

"Don't respond to any provocations of irresponsible people," Lt. Gen. Henri Namphy, said in a television broadcast Sunday night.

At least seven people were reported killed by hospital officials and scores more were injured when the troops opened fire after some of the 10,000 marchers had tried to enter Fort Dimanche, which had been a political prison during nearly three decades of rule by the Duvalier family.

Gen. Namphy said the "agitators" would "take any opportunity to destabilise the government," adding they wanted to "stop the process of democracy and bring about a totalitarian regime."

He said his government had "passed instructions everywhere to put the army at the service of democracy."

Gen. Namphy, head of the three-member civilian-military council which has ruled Haiti since President-for-Life Jean Claude Duvalier fled on Feb. 7, made the statements after political leaders charged the action of the troops had damaged the credibility of the provisional government.

"An inquiry has already been opened to determine the agitators and their accomplices... (it) will be followed with vigour until the discovery of bad intentioned individuals," the Interior and Defence Ministry said in a statement.

The ministry defended the action of troops who opened fire when demonstrators tried to push their way into a military base after a march in honour of victims of the regimes of Jean-Claude Duvalier and his father Francois.

Earlier an official from a different section of government and the march organisers accused the troops at Fort Dimanche of overreacting.

Government officials said up to eight people died on Saturday in the country's bloodiest protest since the ousting of Duvalier. Three were electrocuted by a power line brought down when troops fired into the air to disperse the 10,000 marchers.

The Interior and Defence Ministry called the shooting a normal reaction by troops defending their base "against an attempted invasion by individuals overtly pushed by leaders." It said the crowd had been given repeated warnings to desist.

The league of the former political prisoners, which organised the march, issued a statement blaming "agitators" for the violence.

But it criticised the army for what it called violent and brutal actions and said the military had not been prepared for the demonstration.

Bonn to protest to Paraguay for beating journalists

BONN (R) — West Germany will make a formal protest to Paraguay over an incident Sunday in which a West German diplomat and two German journalists were beaten by Paraguayan police, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Monday.

"The West German government regrets the events in Asuncion and has instructed Ambassador Conrad Gracher to launch a high-level protest to the Foreign Ministry and to demand an investigation," the spokesman said.

The diplomat, Armin Steuer, said he was taken to police headquarters along with the four-man television crew after they had filmed a protest rally in Asuncion by the banned Liberal Radical Authentic Party.

Mr. Steuer said he and West German journalists Nikolaus Breder and Peter Wendt and Argentine journalists Antonio Vulin and Eduardo Johnson were beaten with clubs.

The demonstration, calling for more political freedom, was the latest in a rare outburst of protest against the dictatorship of General Alfredo Stroessner, who has ruled the Latin American republic since 1954.

Stroessner last year postponed a plan to visit to West Germany after indications that he would not be wholly welcome.

"Apparently in Paraguay there is no such thing as diplomatic immunity," Steuer said.

He said he had accompanied the West German journalists from ARD Television to the rally at their request.

He said all four journalists had been released from hospital.

The protests this month mark an unusual burst of political activity. Political protests are rare.

Texas 'slave ranch' trial starts today

KERRVILLE, Texas (R) — A prominent Texas family, accused of kidnapping hapless drifters to work at their "slave ranch," goes on trial Tuesday in the state's first criminal slavery case since the civil war.

This small community west of San Antonio was shocked two years ago when Texas Rangers and federal agents rounded up members of the Walter Ellebracht family and charged them with kidnapping.

The defendants were arrested on April 6, 1984, after Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agents and other lawmen received a telephone tip and raided the Ellebracht's ranch.

Walter Ellebracht, 55, his son, Walter Jr., 33, and the son's wife, Joyce Hall-Ellebracht, 31, are charged with murder and conspiracy to commit kidnapping.

Carlton Caldwell, 21, whom police said worked at the ranch, was also charged and will face trial with the Ellebrachts. Five other drifters have been charged, but no trial date has been set for them.

Kerr County Prosecutor Ronald Sutton charges that the Ellebrachts operated a "slave camp"

on their sprawling ranch over a three-year period.

About a dozen people were found in chains at the ranch at the time of the raid, police said, and officials allege that while the "slave camp" was in operation more than 50 hitch-hikers and drifters were abducted, chained, tortured and forced to work.

If convicted, each of the defendants faces a maximum sentence of 99 years in prison.

The Ellebrachts sold a portion of their valuable land for more than \$1 million to retain prominent Houston attorney Richard Haynes. He has not commented on the case but his associate, Dan Cogdell, said the Ellebrachts were innocent.

"We will just require the state to present its evidence and prove the charges," Cogdell said. "Our defence is, quite simply, our clients did not do what they are accused of."

The ranch is located a few miles south of the busy interstate 10 which connects Florida to southern California and is a popular route for homeless drifters.

Prosecutors allege that the Ellebrachts and their cohorts regularly cruised Interstate 10, picking up hitch-hikers and offering them food, shelter and jobs.

The prosecution case is that, once lured into the care of the family, the drifters were then chained with leg irons and forced to clear hundreds of acres of cedar trees and live oaks.

Prosecutors have alleged that these "slaves" were tortured with weapons and were shocked with electric cattle prods on their tongues and genitals.

FBI interviews with other "slaves" have produced charges that Bates had lived on the ranch for about three weeks before he was tortured and beaten to death. The co-workers told investigators his body was dumped in a large oil drum, doused with petrol and burned, the prosecution alleges.

Key state evidence to be presented includes two cassette recordings allegedly made of the Ellebrachts during the torture sessions with Bates.

"When those tapes are played in open court, it will make you sick," Sutton said. "It's pretty good evidence."

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COLUMN

Man bites dog to death

JAKARTA (R) — An enraged villager killed a dog by repeatedly sinking his teeth into its throat after it bit a six-year-old boy, the daily Merdeka said Monday. Uni, a 24-year-old rice farmer, hit the dog with a stick then bit it to death in the weekend incident in Putri Dalem, western Java. Health authorities are checking the dog for rabies, which is endemic in the area.

Passerby catches baby hurled through window

NEW YORK (R) — A baby girl thrown from a window four storeys up was saved by a passerby who caught her before she struck the pavement, New York police said Monday. Police said the baby's father, Fred Perrell, 25, hurled his one-year-old daughter through a shut window of a flat during an argument with his estranged wife. Keith Manigault heard screams and breaking glass, looked up, and caught the falling child in his arms, police said. The girl was reported in good condition in hospital.

Man starves himself to death

BERGAMO, Italy (AP) — A 48-year-old man who neighbours say lived like a hermit lay down on his bed one day, never to eat again until he died of starvation, an Italian newspaper reported Sunday. His one friend, a gravedigger, found the body of Giuseppe Bertocchi last week after breaking into his home. On his bedside table sat a pitcher with a few drops of water, a written note that said, "If I die, take care of my body," and a photograph for his tombstone. The account was carried by Il Giornale di Milano. The newspaper said the discovery of Bertocchi by the province's gravedigger, Costantino Barcella, shocked his neighbours, who said they had believed he liked his solitary existence in his northern city nestled into the foothills of the Alps. His only relative was a brother living in Canada, the newspaper said, adding that Bertocchi, a shy man, held several jobs as a factory worker before retiring a few years ago.

Teacher orders student slapped by 40 classmates

ROUEN, France (AP) — A 14-year-old high school student was slapped publicly in the face once in turn by each of his 40 classmates under orders from a teacher who accused the student of vandalising gym equipment, school officials confirmed Saturday. The student, identified only as Arnaud, was "traumatised and humiliated" by the punishment but was in otherwise good health, according to his father, whose name also was withheld from reporters. School officials, who asked not to be named, said several parents had expressed "horror" after hearing of the incident. Some of the parents said their children held back, giving Arnaud only perfunctory slaps. Both girls and boys participated in the punishment, school officials said.

China pleads for return of old scrolls

DUNHUANG, North China (R) — The curator of China's ancient Buddhist caves of Dunhuang has pleaded for the return of thousands of precious scrolls and manuscripts removed early this century to museums in Western Europe. The priceless items, between 1,000 and 1,600 years old, had been sealed in a secret cave near the desert oasis until almost 40,000 fell into the hands of foreign adventurers soon after their discovery in 1900. The treasures are now regarded as important a loss to China as the Elgin Marbles to Greece. "What we hope is that Dunhuang can be reconstructed as a single unit with everything intact as it was and as it should be," Director Duan Wenjie told reporters. "These are China's national treasures and I feel very strongly in my heart that they should be in China." About 10,000 of the 50,000 items uncovered are in the British museum, 8,000 in French museums and a further 20,000 are spread across 14 other countries including Japan, West Germany, East Germany and the Soviet Union.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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AN ACE TOO MANY!

East-West vulnerable. South deals.			
NORTH			
♠ K94			
♥ AK74			
♦ 1063			
♣ J65			
WEST		EAST	
♠ 7		♠ Q1062	
♥ 109865		♥ J2	
♦ 982		♦ AJ5	
♣ 10943		♣ AK72	
SOUTH			
♠ AJ853			
♥ Q4			
♦ KQ74			
♣ A8			